Name & Surname: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Anglo-Saxon Settlements

Invasions, kingdoms, place names and village life

About 40 minutes Level ★★★☆☆

After the Romans Left

The last Roman soldiers left Britain by **AD 410**. Soon new people sailed across the sea to settle.

- The newcomers were Angles, Saxons and Jutes from **Germany**, the Netherlands and Denmark.
- Some came as warriors to fight the Picts and Scots. Many came peacefully to farm.
- Their homes in northern Europe often flooded, so they wanted better **land**.
- They first settled in the east, in Kent, Sussex, Essex and East Anglia.
- They built villages of wooden huts and farmed and made things.
- Later there were seven kingdoms: Northumbria, Mercia, East Anglia, Essex, Kent, Sussex and Wessex.



Task A

/2

Read what these pupils say. Spot the mistake in each one and write the correct fact.



Student A

"The last Roman soldiers left Britain in 1066, and then the Anglo-Saxons arrived."

What mistake did Student A make? Write the correct fact.

.....

.....



Student B

"The Angles, Saxons and Jutes lived in the north of Britain and moved south to find land."

What mistake did Student B make? Write the correct fact.

.....

.....

Key words

settlement: a place where people build homes to live for a long time

village: a small group of homes and farms

kingdom: land ruled by a king or queen

wattle and daub: sticks and mud used to make walls

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Rank Village Needs

Decide what mattered most for survival.

Task B

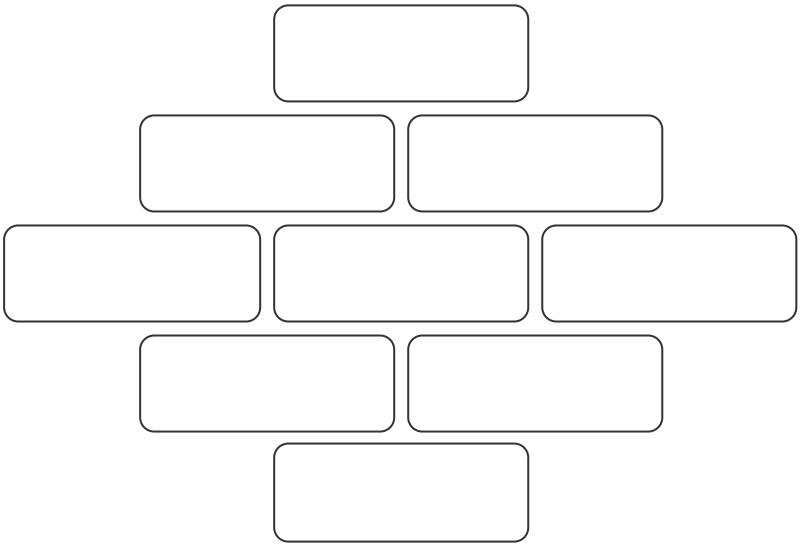
Cut out the cards. Rank them in a diamond, with the most important need at the top.

What was most important for a new Anglo-Saxon village?

Cut out the cards.

Fresh water from a river or well	Good soil to grow crops	Wood for houses and fires
Grass land to keep animals	Families and neighbours to help	Safe place away from attackers
Tools, pots and warm clothes	Your own idea	Your own idea

▲ Most important



▼ Least important

Why did you put your top card at the top?

.....

.....

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Words and Questions

Explain key ideas and help other pupils.

Task C

/4

Read the word map for settlement. Use it to write your own sentence.

settlement

Definition (in my own words)

Characteristics

Examples

a new Anglo-Saxon village in the east

Non-examples

soldiers marching past for one night

Task D

/3

Read each question. Write a short answer to help each pupil.



Student A

Why do so many places have names like Essex and Sussex?

What were houses made from? Why is none left?



Student B



Student C

Did one king rule all the Anglo-Saxons?

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Choose and Check

Pick the best site, then quiz yourself.

Task E

/8

Compare where to build. Pick the best place and say why.

Your family has just sailed over the sea. You must pick where to build your new village.

By a river in the east

Advantage

Disadvantage

On top of a windy hill

Advantage

Disadvantage

Deep in thick woods

Advantage

Disadvantage

Which is the most suitable? Justify your choice.

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Anglo-Saxon Settlements

Task F Example done for you /3

Tick the correct answer to each question.

1. Who ruled Britain before the Anglo-Saxons settled?
   - [x] The Romans
   - [ ] The Normans
   - [ ] The Vikings
2. Where did the Angles, Saxons and Jutes sail from?
   - [ ] Spain and France
   - [ ] Germany, the Netherlands and Denmark
   - [ ] America and Canada
3. Which of these was NOT one of the seven Anglo-Saxon kingdoms?
   - [ ] Wessex
   - [ ] Mercia
   - [ ] London
4. Why have no original Anglo-Saxon houses survived?
   - [ ] They were made from wood and other natural materials that rotted
   - [ ] They were knocked down to build motorways
   - [ ] They were all carried back over the sea

How did I do?

Circle a face for each line.

I can say where the Anglo-Saxons came from and when they settled.	☹	😐	☺
I can describe life in an Anglo-Saxon village.	☹	😐	☺
I can link place names to the seven kingdoms.	☹	😐	☺

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Answer sheet: Anglo-Saxon Settlements

Task A

1. Student A: Wrong date. The Romans left by AD 410, not 1066. The Anglo-Saxon age was about AD 410 to 1066.
2. Student B: Wrong starting place. They sailed over the sea from Germany, the Netherlands and Denmark and first settled in the east of Britain.

Task B

Answers will vary.

Task C

Definition: A place where people build homes and live together for a long time.
Characteristics: near water and good soil for farming, houses made from wood and wattle and daub, farms, workshops and families helping
Examples: a new Anglo-Saxon village in the east, a farm with huts, fields and animals
Non-examples: soldiers marching past for one night, a single tent put up on a trip

Task D

1. Student A: They remember the settlers. Essex means East Saxons and Sussex means South Saxons.
2. Student B: They were made from wood and wattle and daub. These natural materials rotted away.
3. Student C: No. There were seven kingdoms and each had its own king.

Task E

By a river in the east: + Fresh water and good soil for crops; – Land can flood in wet weather
On top of a windy hill: + Easy to see attackers coming; – Far from water and hard to farm
Deep in thick woods: + Lots of wood for houses and fires; – Little open space for fields and animals
Best is by a river in the east, because water, food and travel matter most for village life every day.

Task F

1. a) The Romans
2. b) Germany, the Netherlands and Denmark
3. c) London
4. a) They were made from wood and other natural materials that rotted

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