

Wednesday 19th January

History (Milestone 3) WALT: Describe the characteristic features of the past (P)

Deep task:

Investigate the seven kingdoms established during the Anglo-Saxon period.

Label the seven kingdoms and key information relating to each kingdom on the map below.

Wessex:

Wessex was formed in 495 AD.
• it was formerly the 'last kingdom' and unlike other kingdoms, fought off the Vikings on multiple occasions
• Alfred the Great is most likely the land's most famous King of the unified Kingdoms
• it was in the south-west of England

Sussex:

Sussex was formed in 477 AD.
• Sussex did not last nearly as long as the other kingdoms since it was conquered by Wessex in the 7th Century
• it was first established by Germanic tribes in the 5th Century
• it was one of the last kingdoms to convert and agree to Christianity

Northumbria:

The Kingdom of Northumbria was founded in 547 AD.
• it was the largest Kingdom and was located in the North
• in the 7th Century, it was the most powerful
• out of 14 Kings, 4 were murdered, 6 were overthrown and 2 threw down their crowns to be monks (in the 8th Century)
• Finally, the Vikings took over and put Northumbria out of its misery

East Anglia:

East Anglia was formed in 575 AD.
• the land is most famous for 'Sutton Hoo' an ancient burial site filled with treasure

Merca:

Merca (the Kingdom) was formed in 586 AD.
• rather than being one Kingdom, it was made up of multiple smaller ones
• Merca's most notable King was Ogo who enjoyed scaring people -
• it ended when the land was conquered by the Vikings
• = 'Sutton Hoo'

Kent:

The Kingdom of Kent was formed in 455 AD.
• The warrior Vortigern gave the Jutes the land of Kent for helping defend against the Picts
• the Christianisation of the Anglo-Saxons began in Kent, when the Monk Augustine arrived to spread Christianity

Essex:

The Kingdom of Essex was formed in 527 AD.
• it had two Roman cities (London + Colchester)
• little information was known until the 9th Century
• they couldn't decide whether they were Christian or not so they became Pagan on 3 separate occasions



Deep Task 2:

What were the causes and consequences of the Seven Kingdoms forming?

CAUSES:

Arriving with different tribes from different parts of Europe (such as Germanic, Southern Denmark and borders of the Netherlands), the Anglo Saxons settled in separate areas. Because they could not rule their land by themselves, each kingdom had their own ruler or warlord. If they were proved a strong and successful leader, they became 'kuning' which meant King in the Anglo-Saxon era.

Consequences:

Often fighting for dominance and power, or even land, Britain would have been a stressful and dangerous place to live. Owing to this, the each king would claim to be 'Bretwalda' (meaning ruler of all Britain); however, this wasn't a great idea since it didn't last very long. Perhaps if the tribes would've been united, they would have been stronger, and may have fought off the Vikings. This could've made mean they would be around for longer.

Challenge:

Use your annotated map of Anglo-Saxon Britain to complete the true or false task below. Justify your choices.

	True	False
East Anglia was the largest kingdom.		✓
Kent was the the first kingdom to be formed in 455 AD.	✓	
The people of Essex were unsure about Christianity and returned to Paganism 3 times.	✓	
Sutton Hoo is located in Mercia.		✓
In Northumbria in the 8 th century, the kings were doomed: 4 were murdered, 6 were overthrown and 2 ran away to become monks.	✓	

✓ Good
AP

✓
✓
✓
✓
✓