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History of the United Kingdom: To 1707

The civilization of the United Kingdom developed over the centuries from a blend of many cultures. Among the groups who shaped the nation's early history were prehistoric peoples, Celts, Romans, Angles, Saxons, Vikings, and Normans. Each group's art, ideas, languages, and political achievements created a legacy that continues to influence the United Kingdom and other nations around the world. How did this happen? Does England's history influence your culture today? Let's find out!

First, go to **www.worldbookonline.com**
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Find It!

Find the answers to the questions below by using the "Search" tool to search key words. Since this activity is about the history of the United Kingdom, you can start by searching for the keywords "United Kingdom" to find the article titled "United Kingdom, History of the."

Write the answer below each question or circle the correct multiple-choice selection.

1. The history of the United Kingdom is part of the long story of all the peoples who have at one time or another lived in what are now the four political divisions that make up the modern United Kingdom. What are those four modern day political divisions?

2. The "U.K." and "Britain" are commonly used short names to refer to the United Kingdom. What is the modern nation's full name?

3. Thousands of years ago, during the last ice age, a land bridge joined Great Britain with _____.
   a. Asia
   b. Europe
   c. Greenland
   d. Iceland

***Users of the *Advanced* database can find extension activities at the end of this webquest.**

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4. Stonehenge, built between about 2800 and 1500 B.C., was probably used as *what* by ancient inhabitants of England? (*Hint: You may find the answer to this question in the article or image caption.*)

   a. To learn mathematics and science

   b. To bring merchants together for seasonal markets

   c. To serve as a tribal gathering place and religious center

   d. To protect their settlement from outside invaders

5. By about 50 B.C., Celtic had become the main language in Great Britain and Ireland. What modern languages developed from Celtic?

Map It!

6. For this question, examine the map titled "Roman Britain." On the blank map below, mark and label the following places built by the Romans in the colony they called Britannia.

   Antonine Wall

   Cambria

   Canterbury

   Chester

   Dover

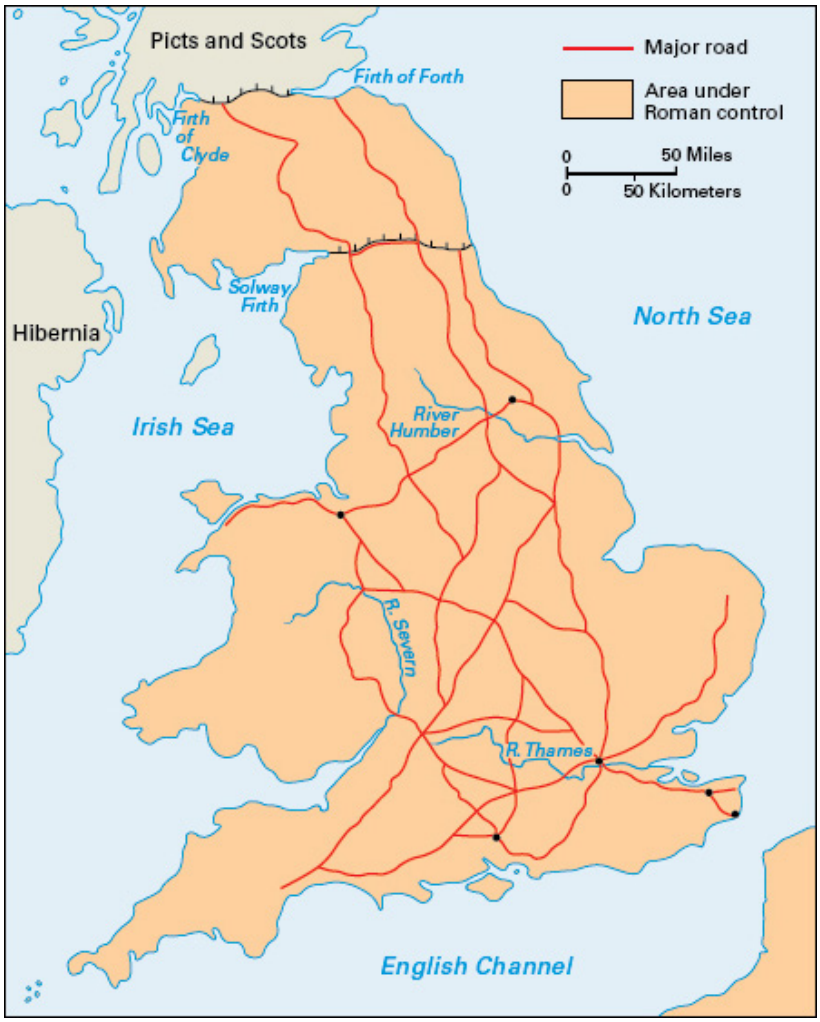
   Hadrian's Wall

   London

   Watling Street

   Winchester

   York



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7. Who was Boudicca, and what did she do?

8. Read the description of a Roman town in the section titled "Roman rule" in the article on the History of the United Kingdom. Sketch a map of your own Roman town in Britannia. Include and label at least six of the features of Roman towns mentioned in the article.

Map It!

(Hint: The following three questions may be found in the maps and text of the "Anglo-Saxons" article.)

9. When the Romans withdrew their soldiers to defend Rome in the 400's, what three Germanic peoples from continental Europe settled in England.

   Bonus: From what regions did these people come?

10. By the 700's, the Anglo-Saxons had established seven main kingdoms in Britain. Historians call these kingdoms the "Heptarchy" (meaning "rule of seven"). List the seven kingdoms.

11. According to the article, how did the seven main kingdoms become one large kingdom known collectively as England?

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(Hint: The following questions may be found back in the "United Kingdom, history of" article.)

12. In the 700's, King Offa of Mercia built a defensive *dike* (earthworks) that defined the English boundary with the _____.

13. What new invaders began to raid the coast of Wessex in 789 and to attack the coasts of Scotland and Ireland in the 790's?

14. _____ the Great, king of _____, won victories against the Danish Vikings in 878 and 886, and got the Danish leaders to agree to live north of a line drawn from the River Thames to Chester, in the area that became known as the Danelaw.

15. Write a "W" in front of each statement that applies to William, Duke of Normandy.

    _____ conquered England in 1066

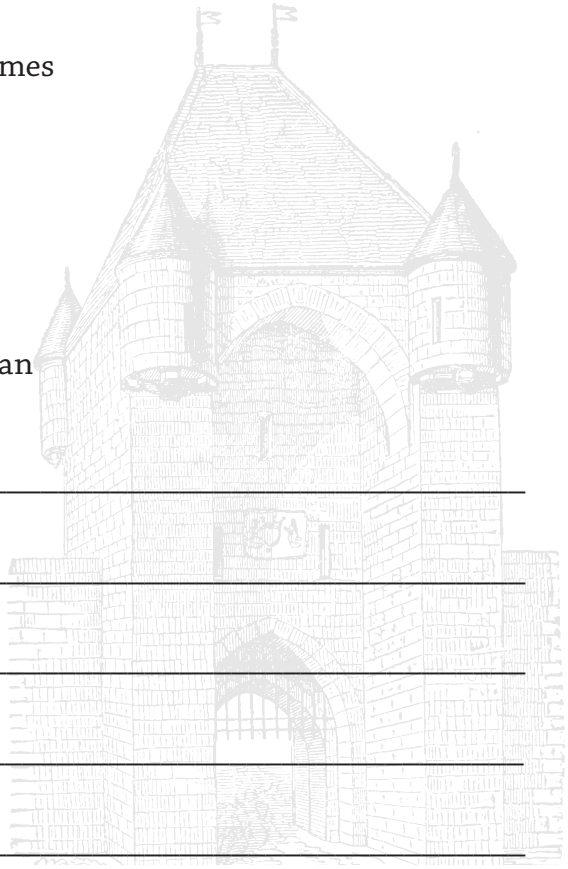
    _____ forced the Vikings to stay north of the River Thames

    _____ became known as William the Conqueror

    _____ ruled Norway

    _____ conquered France

    _____ began to build the Tower of London



16. The Normans built many castles. Define these parts of an early type of castle called a motte and bailey castle.

    motte _____

    bailey _____

    keep _____

    palisade _____

    moat _____

17. Henry II of England sent judges into all parts of England to replace courts that ruled according to local custom with justice based on the same laws all through the land. This became the basis of the English legal system called _____, which is the basis of the legal systems in many modern nations, including the United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States.

18. In 1215, English barons forced King John to agree to _____, which placed the king under English law and limited his power.

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19. Draw lines to match the dates with these events during and shortly after the reign of King Edward I of England.

1283	Edward I gave the title "Prince of Wales" to his son.
1296	The Scots assured Scottish independence for more than 300 years by defeating the English in the Battle of Bannockburn.
1297	Edward I conquered the Welsh.
1301	Edward I agreed not to collect certain taxes without the consent of Parliament.
1314	Edward I invaded Scotland and proclaimed himself king of Scotland.

20. An outbreak of plague known the Black Death spread across Europe and killed as much as _____-_____ of the population in 1348 to 1349.

a. one-tenth
b. one-fourth
c. one–third
d. one-half

21. A. In the series of conflicts known as the Hundred Years' War (1337-1453), what did England hope to recover?

B. What did France hope to gain?

22. Why is the struggle over the English throne in the 1400's known as the Wars of the Roses?

The Tudor family ruled England from 1485 to 1603. For the next two questions, write the name of the correct Tudor monarch in the space before each statement.

23. Which Henry: Henry VII or Henry VIII?

_____ married the daughter of King Edward IV, uniting the houses of Lancaster and York.

_____ joined England and Wales under one system of government.

_____ wanted to annul his marriage to an aging wife and remarry, because he wanted a male heir to prevent wars over the succession to the throne.

_____ got an Irish Parliament, dominated by nobles who English favored rule, to grant him the title King of Ireland.

_____ had England's Parliament pass a law declaring that the king, not the pope, was supreme head of the church in England.

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24. Which sister: Elizabeth I or Mary I?

_____ restored the pope's authority over the Church of England.

_____ reestablished the Church of England.

_____ was queen when the English adventurer Sir Francis Drake sailed around the world.

_____ married the man who became King Philip II of Spain.

_____ was queen when English ships defeated the Spanish Armada, a huge fleet of ships sent by Philip II to conquer England.

25. James Stuart was King James _____ of Scotland. After his childless cousin Elizabeth I died in 1603, he also became King James _____ of England.

26. Name two famous English settlements in what is now the United States that were founded during the James I's reign.

_____, founded in the year _____

_____, founded in the year_____

Mark the following statements as True (T) or False (F).

27. _____ After Parliament tried to restrict the king's ability to tax his subjects by passing the Petition of Right in 1628, Charles I ruled without Parliament from 1629 to 1640.

28. _____ During the English Civil War, many people in England fought against Charles I, but his subjects in Scotland supported him.

29. _____ Parliament set up a special court that condemned Charles I to death, but the sentence was never carried out.

30. _____ In 1653, Oliver Cromwell became the lord protector of a republic, which was called the Commonwealth of Nations.

31. _____ Parliament restored the monarchy, and Prince Charles, the son of Charles I, returned to England in 1660. He was crowned Charles II in 1661.

32. During the reign of Charles II, what famous scientist invented a new kind of mathematics, showed how the university is held together in his theory of gravitation, and discovered the secrets of light and color?

33. When James II became king in 1685, most government leaders in England

a. immediately rebelled.

b. welcomed the king's goal of restoring Roman Catholicism and absolute monarchy.

c. figured they could put up with him until his Protestant daughter Mary succeeded him.

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34. In 1688, leading politicians in England invited William of Orange, James II's nephew and the husband of James's eldest daughter, Mary, to invade and take over the government. James fled the country. William and Mary became joint monarchs after

    a. they agreed to the Bill of Rights, which assured the people certain basic rights.

    b. the Battle of Dunbar in Scotland.

    c. they agreed to Test Acts that reserved official posts for members of the Church of England.

35. James led a rebellion against William in Ireland, but William defeated James in 1690 at:
    a. the Battle of Dunbar.

    b. the Battle of the Boyne.

    c. the Battle of the Pale.

36. After William and Mary both died, the crown went to:

    a. their eldest daughter, Anne.

    b. Mary's sister, Anne.

    c. Mary's cousin Sophie, a granddaughter of James I.

    d. James's son, James.

37. The most important constitutional event of Queen Anne's reign was the Act of Union, passed in 1707. What did it do?

To be continued…

To continue exploring the history of the United Kingdom, take the webquest titled "History of the United Kingdom: Since 1707."

Extension Activity 1: **The Bayeaux Tapestry**

Examine the picture titled "Bayeaux Tapestry." The Bayeaux Tapestry is an embroidered wallhanging that tells the story of the Norman Conquest of England in 73 scenes, like a medieval graphic history. Stitched in the late 1000's, it is about 20 inches (50 centimeters) high and about 230 feet (70 meters) long—although one end is missing, so it was even longer originally.

Select an event from English history and illustrate it in a series of at least 4 drawings.
Outline and color the illustrations using short lines that look like stitches.

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Extension Activity 2: **Analyzing the Image**

For much of history, rulers expected their royal portraits symbolically to express a certain public image, which might range from military strength to pious humility. Select one of the royal portraits in the article on the history of the United Kingdom, and write down your thoughts about the following questions:

Which portrait did you choose?

When you look at the portrait, how does it make you feel? Explain why.

What image of the ruler is the portrait supposed to express?

What elements of the picture portray that image?

Extension Activity 3: **Words from the Past**

Select a writer from the history of the United Kingdom before 1707, such as: Caedmon, St. Bede, Geoffrey Chaucer, Thomas More, Edmund Spenser, William Shakespeare, or John Locke.

Use the World Book Online database to locate an article about your chosen person. Write a brief expository essay that highlights the ways in which the writer's life and works reflected the time in which he lived.

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