793 – 1066

Viking Age Quiz

Name _____ Date _____

Fill in the circle beside the best answer.

1. What event is traditionally considered the start of the Viking Age?

- (A) The founding of a Norse base at Dublin in 841 CE
- (B) The treaty that gave Rollo land in Normandy in 911 CE
- (C) The Norse raid on the monastery of Lindisfarne in 793 CE
- (D) The beginning of the Norse settlement of Iceland in 874 CE

2. What was the Althing, established in Iceland around 930 CE?

- (A) A national assembly of Icelandic chieftains, one of the world's oldest parliaments
- (B) A war council of Norse chieftains that planned raids on England and France
- (C) A fleet of Icelandic longships that carried settlers to Greenland and beyond
- (D) A trading company of Norse merchants that controlled the river routes to Kyiv and beyond

3. Who was Rollo, and what did he establish in 911?

- (A) A Norse trader who gained control of river routes in Russia and founded Kyiv
- (B) A Norse leader who received land from the King of France and founded Normandy
- (C) A Norse explorer who sailed from Greenland and founded a settlement in Newfoundland
- (D) A Danish king who conquered England and ruled Denmark and Norway as well

4. What did Leif Erikson find around 1000 CE?

- (A) The island of Iceland, which later became the largest Norse colony in the Atlantic
- (B) A river route from Scandinavia to Constantinople through the lands of eastern Europe
- (C) The coast of North America, which he reached about 500 years before Columbus sailed
- (D) A sea passage north of Canada connecting the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific

5. Who was King Cnut, and what made his reign significant?

- (A) A Norwegian king who invaded England in 1066 and died at the Battle of Hastings
- (B) A Norse explorer who sailed west from Greenland and built a settlement in Newfoundland
- (C) A Norse leader who became the first Duke of Normandy after a treaty with France
- (D) A Danish king who ruled England, Denmark, and Norway together as a North Sea empire

6. How were Vikings different from the popular image of purely destructive raiders?

- (A) They stayed close to home and rarely sailed beyond the coasts of Scandinavia
- (B) They never raided monasteries and attacked only other Scandinavian settlements
- (C) They were mainly Christian missionaries who traveled to convert northern Europe
- (D) They also traded, explored, settled new lands, and founded cities and states

7. How did the Norman Conquest of 1066 connect to the Vikings?

- (A) The Normans were descended from Vikings who settled in Normandy under Rollo
- (B) The Normans were enemies of the Vikings and had driven them out of France in 911
- (C) The Normans were hired by the English king to defend the coast from Viking raids
- (D) The Normans were allies of King Cnut, who lent William a fleet of Danish longships

8. What long-term legacies did the Viking Age leave in European history?

- (A) A united Scandinavian kingdom that still governs Norway, Sweden, and Denmark today
- (B) Norse words in English, cities like Dublin, a role in early Russia, and Norman England
- (C) Lasting Norse colonies in North America that grew into the first cities of Canada
- (D) The Latin alphabet and Roman law, which the Vikings carried into western Europe

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Viking Age Quiz: Answer Key

1. **C** The Norse raid on the monastery of Lindisfarne in 793 CE

2. **A** A national assembly of Icelandic chieftains, one of the world's oldest parliaments

3. **B** A Norse leader who received land from the King of France and founded Normandy

4. **C** The coast of North America, which he reached about 500 years before Columbus sailed

5. **D** A Danish king who ruled England, Denmark, and Norway together as a North Sea empire

6. **D** They also traded, explored, settled new lands, and founded cities and states

7. **A** The Normans were descended from Vikings who settled in Normandy under Rollo

8. **B** Norse words in English, cities like Dublin, a role in early Russia, and Norman England