

Literary History

PROGRAMME

- Attendance & programme
- introduction Literary History Modules
- introduction Middle Ages in England
- Overview of quest
- Work time

Why literary history?

- ❖ Why do **you** think we study literary history in English in secondary schools?
- ❖ Ranking reasons
 - ❖ I'll share three reasons with you
 - ❖ Rank them from most to least relevant for you



❖ To understand our world and its history better

Why can this lady, Harriet Beecher Stowe, be said to have started the American Civil War?

Why literary history? Reason
1



Why literary history? Reason

2

❖ To understand references in popular culture better

Which famous Shakespeare play is retold with animals in Disney's The Lion King?



Why literary history? Reason

3

❖ To be entertained by stories that have appealed to countless generations

How long have stories about King Arthur been around?

Why literary history?

❖ Rank the reasons from most to least relevant for you




Literary History Modules - overview

1. Middle Ages (4V (P3+4))
2. Renaissance (4V (P4))
3. Romantic Poetry (5V (P1))
4. Victorian Novels (5V (P5))
5. World War 1 Poetry (6V (P2))

- Challenge: copy this line in your notebook and (roughly) indicate when you think each module takes place in history

Getting organised: Literary history file

- Screenshot from the Quest 4V Middle Ages

We will study literary history at various points in your school career, so it is important that you organise your materials properly. I urge you to start a **Literary History File**, either in paper in a new notebook or digitally in a Pages document. I also advise you to create a separate Literary History File tile in  **Egodact** where you can keep track of what you are doing over the years.

Tips on taking notes

- ❖ Taking notes is a way of **actively listening** and a first step in **learning**
- ❖ Tips:
 - ❖ Write down **keywords and phrases**, not entire sentences.
 - ❖ Use symbols → & * † X
 - ❖ Use abbreviations, like
 - ❖ b/c = because
 - ❖ e.g. = for example
 - ❖ MA = Middle Ages
 - ❖ A-S = Anglo-Saxons
 - ❖ Use highlighters / different colours (can also be done after listening)

Medieval England: Historical background

- Can you order these images chronologically?



Medieval England: Historical background

- Can you order these images chronologically?



Medieval England: Historical background

- Medieval England: The Anglo-Saxons & the Late Middle Ages

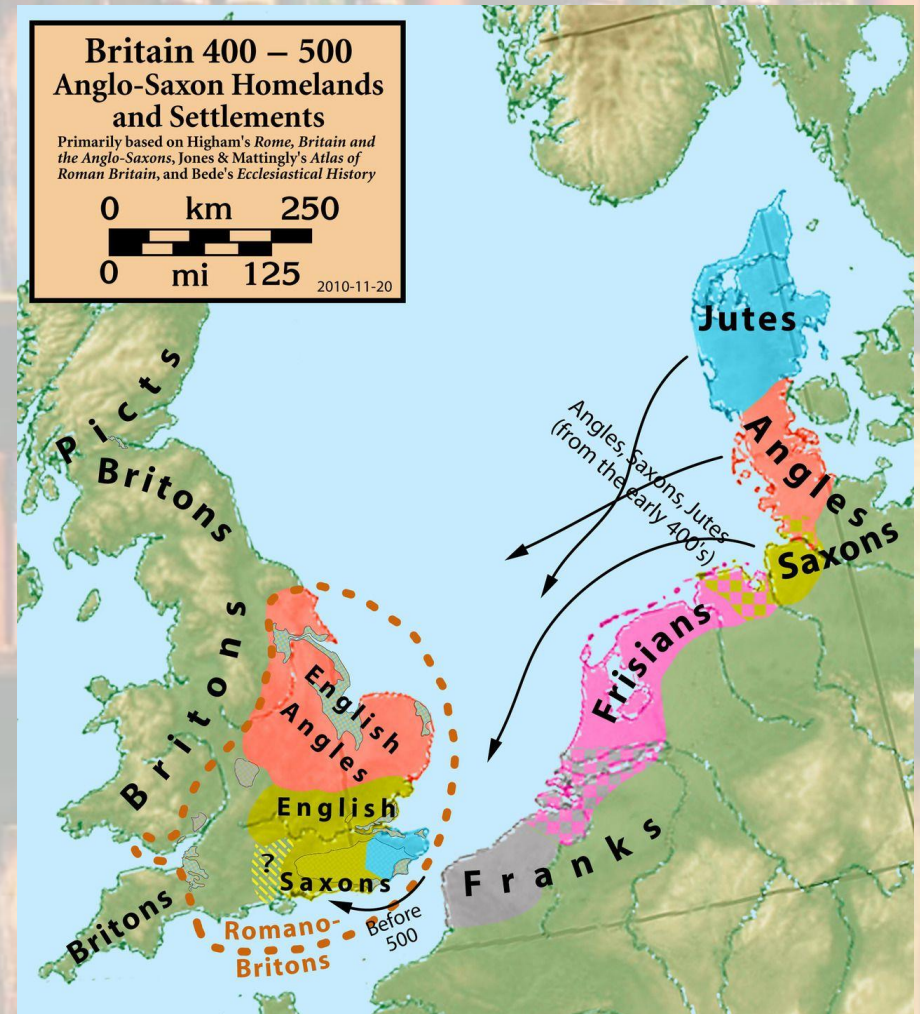


1066



Medieval England: Who were the Anglo-Saxons?

- 5th Century: fall of the Roman Empire
 - This led to (or was caused by?) a restless period referred to as the Migration Period
 - Britain was abandoned by the Romans around 450 AD, leaving the Romano-Britons (who were once Celts but had accepted Roman rule) defenseless
 - Germanic tribes, amongst others the Angles and the Saxons, first invaded and finally settled in England.



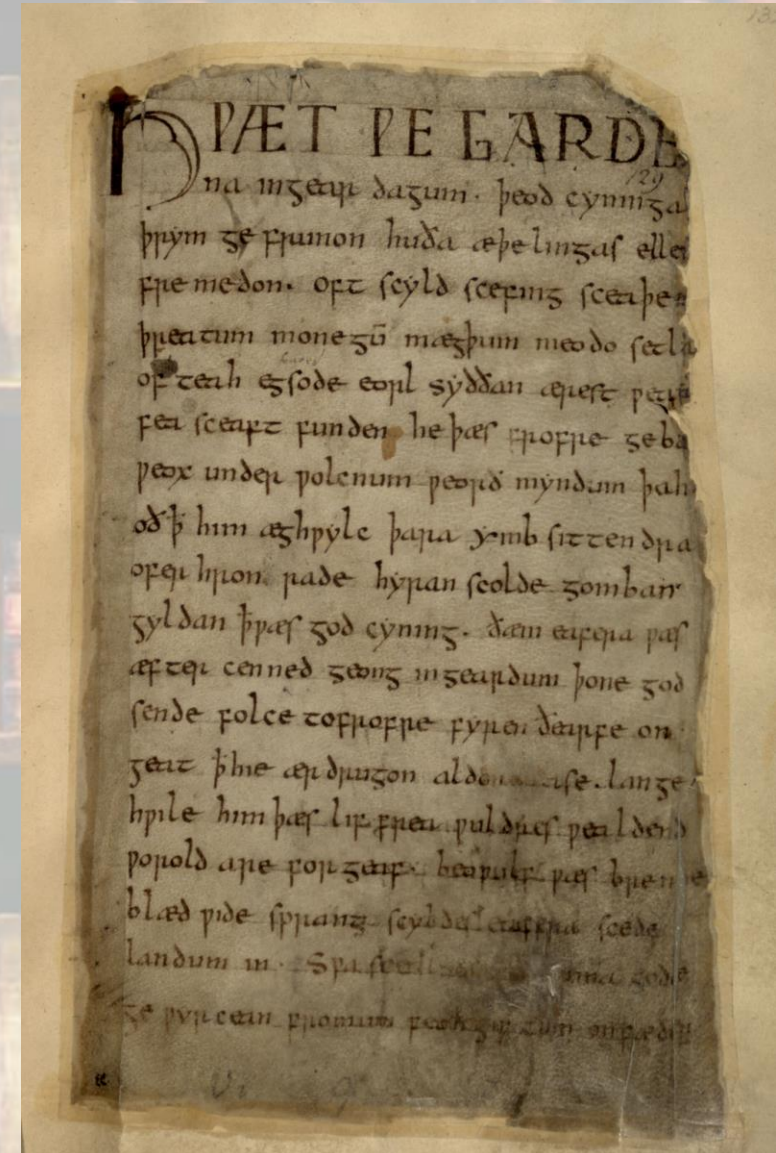
Medieval England: What did Anglo-Saxon England look like?

- A loose collection of kingdoms, sometimes collaborating, sometimes competing
- At first Germanic and therefore a pagan culture and lifestyle, but the population was converted to Christianity over the 7th Century.
- Alfred the Great (848-899) was king of Wessex and strove to unite the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms; this finally happened in 927.



Medieval England: What did Anglo-Saxon English look like?

- Writing in the Middle Ages was only done by monks and scribes and not much survives
- A famous historical record of Anglo-Saxon England is Bede's Ecclesiastical History, written in 731 - in Latin!
- The oldest substantial English documents to survive date to the 8th C as well
- It was written in Old English and it is not readily recognisable as English for a modern audience...



4V – work time now & finish for next week

- ❖ 4V Middle Ages Quest: 3. Historical Background
- Screenshot from the Quest 4V Middle Ages

- Start this part of your Literary History File with a title page: Middle Ages. Find an appropriate illustration [here](#).
- Study the links and videos below to get an idea of the historical background of the Middle Ages in England.
- Write a summary in your Literary History File of what you've learned. Be sure to include the following key words in your summary:

key words: Anglo-Saxon, Conversion to Christianity, Danelaw, Lindisfarne, Norman Conquest, Battle of Hastings, Magna Carta, feudalism, Black Death, The Wars of the Roses.

- Upload your summary to Seesaw/Egodact.

