

Anglo-Saxon Kings

Use your knowledge about King Alfred the Great and King Athelstan to answer the questions. You can also use the **Anglo-Saxon Kings Information Sheet** to help you.

1. What was the last remaining Anglo-Saxon kingdom in AD 878?

2. When did King Alfred the Great become king?

3. What happened when the Vikings invaded Wessex in AD 878?

4. What happened at the Battle of Edington?

5. Who was Guthrum?

6. When did King Alfred agree a treaty to divide up land with the Vikings?

7. What was Danelaw?

8. When did Athelstan become king?

9. Which kingdom did King Athelstan take back from the Vikings?

10. Which Scottish king did Athelstan manage to control?

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11. When was the Battle of Brunanburh?

12. How did Athelstan help to strengthen the British relationships overseas?

13. Who do you think was the greater king: Alfred the Great or Athelstan?

14. In what ways do you think the two kings are similar and in what ways are they different?

Anglo-Saxon Kings **Answers**

Use your knowledge about King Alfred the Great and King Athelstan to answer the questions. You can also use the **Anglo-Saxon Kings Information Sheet** to help you.

1. What was the last remaining Anglo-Saxon kingdom in AD 878?
The last remaining kingdom in AD 878 was Wessex.
2. When did King Alfred the Great become king?
King Alfred the Great became king in AD 871.
3. What happened when the Vikings invaded Wessex in AD 878?
When the Vikings invaded Wessex in AD 878, King Alfred was forced into hiding. However, he was not prepared to give up and he and his followers defeated the Vikings at the Battle of Edington.
4. What happened at the Battle of Edington?
The Battle of Edington was a fierce battle in which King Alfred and his men drove back at the attacking Vikings, who surrendered.
5. Who was Guthrum?
King Guthrum was the Viking leader of the Battle of Edington.
6. When did King Alfred agree a treaty to divide up land with the Vikings?
King Alfred agreed a treaty to divide up the land in AD 886.
7. What was Danelaw?
Danelaw was the name given to the Northern and Eastern area of England that the Vikings had control over.
8. When did Athelstan become king?
Athelstan became king in AD 924.
9. Which kingdom did King Athelstan take back from the Vikings?
King Athelstan took back the kingdom of York from the Vikings.
10. Which Scottish king did Athelstan manage to control?
King Athelstan managed to control King Constantine from Scotland.
11. When was the Battle of Brunanburh?
The Battle of Brunanburh was in AD 937.

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12. How did Athelstan help to strengthen the British relationships overseas?
Athelstan helped to strengthen the British relationships by marrying his four sisters to important rulers abroad.
13. Who do you think was the greater king: Alfred the Great or Athelstan?
Varied answers. Answers may suggest Alfred was the greater king because:
- **he defeated King Guthrum and the Vikings at the Battle of Edington with only a small group of followers;**
 - **he made the deal with Guthrum to divide up the land with the Vikings; he established more peaceful relationships between the English and the Vikings.**
 - **Answers may suggest Athelstan was the greater king because:**
 - **He drove the Vikings back to claim more control over a greater area of land for the English;**
 - **he won back the kingdom of York;**
 - **he established control over King Constantine and the other Northern Kings;**
 - **he made the five Kings of Wales pay tribute to him each year;**
 - **he fought with his Viking and Welsh allies to stop an invasion by the Scottish king;**
 - **he established good relationships with leaders from other countries;**
 - **he had strong links with religious leaders and founded many churches.**
14. In what ways do you think the two kings are similar and in what ways are they different?
Varied answers.