

Anglo-Saxons Writing Tasks

Song - At Peace with the Vikings

There is much to celebrate in your village this evening. The war with the Vikings has come to an end and peace has been negotiated between your village and the Viking Chief, Vigrid. Help the story teller compose a Song of Hope to be sung at the evening's celebration:

A war it has been waged
For many a weary year
But thanks to the bravery of one young child
tonight is a time of cheer.....

You might include:

- a summary of the key events on this eventful day

Remember:

- to include words of hope, relief and celebration

Speech - Fighting is not the answer

'The two sides are moving towards each other. Take a deep breath. Is revenge such a good idea? What Vigrid did was terrible, but what's about to happen will be worse. Look at Astrid. She looks terrified. Astrid helped you, more than once. Not all Vikings are bad'.

You saw the dangers involved and succeeded (with Astrid's help), to persuade Vigrid and Grindan not to fight with each other. What exactly did you say to Vigrid? How did you persuade them both that fighting was not the answer? Write a copy of the speech you gave.

You might include:

- rhetorical questions, bribery, flattery (you offered him the brooch as a bribe) and reasoning

e.g. Why can't we live in peace?

Remember:

- use emotive language

Instructions - Anglo-Saxon Village Life

A new villager has just moved into your village. You have been asked to create a list of rules and instructions to help them settle in. What are some of the key things they will need to remember to keep Grindan happy? What kind of chores are they likely to be asked to do? Don't forget to explain how the land and use of the ox is shared. And the meetings around the campfire that villagers are expected to attend.

You might include:

- a map to help him find his way around

Remember:

- Use bossy language: that's what Grindan would expect!

Letter - Dear Astrid

'I've come to set you free. My father and his men are about to attack your village. They are going to set it on fire! You need to warn the villagers and get out of here!'

Astrid showed you that not all Vikings were bad. You have so much to thank her for: she warned you that a tree was about to fall on you when you first met; she didn't betray you to her father; together you succeeded in stopping the fighting. Write her a thank you letter to let her know how grateful you are.

You might include:

- a decorated envelope with Astrid's name written in runes

Remember:

- to include your address and date in the top right hand corner
- end your letter in a friendly way

Diary Entry

'You're alone in the dark, shut out of the only home you've ever known. Worse than that, your grandmother's a slave. Sink to the ground and put your head in your hands.'

Even though you have been the hero of the day and have succeeded in creating 'a new village in a new land at peace with the Vikings,' it has been a really emotional and difficult day at times. Now that you are alone in your hut, write a diary entry including some of the most memorable or difficult moments of the day.

You might include:

- when you were banished from the village; when you discovered the Vikings were planning an attack; when Grindan and your village were planning revenge

Remember:

- to share how you felt as well as what you did