This is a Class 3 exam

Lebanon Evangelical School for Boys and Girls

Lebanon Evangelical School
for Boys and Girls Loueizeh - Baabda

# Stage Exam 01
## 06NOV2023

| Do NOT write in this box. Your MARK will be placed here. |
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| Subject : | Special HGC | |
| Class : | 8A | |
| Teacher : | Samer Bassoulou | |
| Duration : | 1 hour | |
| Answer on a seperate sheet | | |
| Your name : | | *Time taken to complete exam* |
| Your Class : | | |
| Exam Room : | | |
| How many sheets, including cover sheet : | | |

- Do not open this paper until the teacher in charge instructs you to do so.
- The most important thing to remember in taking an exam is NEVER PANIC.
- If you are caught cheating in this exam, you will be awarded zero for ALL exams that are taken on this day.
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# The Anglo-Saxons

The Anglo-Saxons, comprising a collection of Germanic tribes including the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes, are central to the early history of England. Their arrival in Britain marked a significant turning point in the cultural, social, and religious landscape of the region.

The arrival of the Anglo-Saxons in Britain can be traced back to the early 5th century, around the year 410 AD. Their migrations were part of the larger pattern of Germanic migrations during the late antiquity period. While the exact circumstances of their arrival are subject to some historical debate, it is widely believed that they came in multiple waves, establishing kingdoms and territories across what is now England. The Angles primarily settled in the east and north, the Saxons in the south, and the Jutes in the southeast of England.

The Anglo-Saxons brought with them a societal structure characterized by a complex system of tribes and chieftaincies. Theirs was a warrior culture, and loyalty to one's lord or chieftain was a fundamental aspect of their society. The social hierarchy included the king or local lord, the warrior class, and various levels of freemen and slaves.

This hierarchical structure and emphasis on loyalty and honor are vividly depicted in literary works like "Beowulf." Before their conversion to Christianity, the Anglo-Saxons practiced pagan religions. They believed in a pantheon of gods and goddesses and held sacred groves and natural landmarks as sites of worship. These deities included Woden (Odin), Thunor (Thor), Frige (Frigg), and Tiw (Tyr), among others. Their belief system was polytheistic, and their religious practices were closely tied to the cycles of nature, seasonal celebrations, and rituals.

The Christianization of the Anglo-Saxons was a gradual process that began in the late 6th century and extended into the 7th century. Missionaries from Rome, notably Saint Augustine of Canterbury, played a crucial role in this conversion. The Anglo-Saxons began to adopt Christianity, initially in small communities and later at a broader scale. The conversion brought about significant changes.

The new faith introduced a monotheistic belief system centered on the teachings of Christ. Christian monks and monasteries became centers of learning and culture, contributing to the preservation of knowledge and the development of a written tradition.

This was crucial for recording historical events and creating written records of the Anglo-Saxon past, as seen in works like the "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle." The moral and ethical framework shifted from pagan warrior values to Christian virtues of humility, charity, and the pursuit of an afterlife in heaven.

The Anglo-Saxon migration to Britain reshaped the cultural, social, and religious landscape of the region. Their arrival marked the end of the Roman period in Britain and the beginning of the early medieval period. The complex societal structure and warrior culture of the Anglo-Saxons were gradually transformed with the spread of Christianity, leading to a profound change in their religious beliefs and the preservation of knowledge through the written word. The legacy of the Anglo-Saxons remains deeply embedded in the history and culture of England, shaping the nation for centuries to come.

- **Read *Source A* and answer the following**

1- **Explain two effects of the withdrawal of the Roman army from Britain in 410 AD**

2- **Explain two differences between Anglo-Saxons and Vikings**

3- **Writing:**
**How did the adoption of Christianity by the early Anglo-Saxons impact their culture and society, and what alternative historical scenarios can be imagined if they had retained their pagan traditions?**
**Write a text explaining your opinion presenting evidence from the text and from what you have learned in this module.**

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❖ **Read *Source A* and answer the following**

**1- Explain two effects of the withdrawal of the Roman army from Britain in 410 AD**

**One effect was the Economic Decline. The departure of the Roman army disrupted trade and economic stability, contributing to a decline in prosperity in Britain as access to Roman markets and resources diminished.**

**Another effect was Increased Local Autonomy. With the Roman authority fading, local leaders gained more independence, and regions began to govern themselves, setting the stage for the emergence of early medieval kingdoms and territories.**

**2- Explain two differences between Anglo-Saxons and Vikings**

**One difference is their Social Structure: Anglo-Saxon society was structured with a hierarchical system of kings, nobles, and commoners, and they established settled communities and kingdoms with centralized rule. In contrast, Viking society was less hierarchical, and they were known for their more decentralized and independent chieftain-led communities and ships, with no centralized kingdom or empire.**

**Another significant difference is their Legacy: The Anglo-Saxons had a lasting impact on the English language and culture, contributing significantly to the development of what we now consider the English identity. The Vikings, on the other hand, while contributing some words to the English language, are often remembered for their seafaring exploits and raids rather than long-term cultural influence on England.**

One difference is their Origin. Anglo-Saxons were originally Germanic tribes who migrated to Britain in the 5th and 6th centuries, while Vikings, in spite of being among the Germanic tribe, originated from Scandinavian regions, including present-day Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, and they began their Viking Age raids, discovering the outside world in the late 8th century.

Another difference is their Settlements: Anglo-Saxons settled in England, establishing various kingdoms and territories. In contrast, Vikings were known for their seafaring and raiding activities across Europe, including parts of England, but they did not establish large permanent settlements there until later in the Viking Age.

3- **Writing:**

**How did the adoption of Christianity by the early Anglo-Saxons impact their culture and society, and what alternative historical scenarios can be imagined if they had retained their pagan traditions?**
**Write a text explaining your opinion presenting evidence from the text and from what you have learned in this module.**

The adoption of Christianity by the early Anglo-Saxons in Britain had a profound impact on their culture and society. This shift in religious beliefs, beginning in the late 6th century, brought about several significant changes.

Firstly, the adoption of Christianity introduced a new moral and ethical framework to Anglo-Saxon society. Christian teachings emphasized values such as compassion, forgiveness, and charity, which encouraged a shift towards a more humane and equitable society. The Church played a central role in the lives of the people, providing education, charitable services, and promoting a sense of community.
Additionally, Christianity introduced a written language and literacy to the Anglo-Saxons, as religious texts were often written in Latin and needed to be translated. This literacy had a far-reaching impact on the culture, as it allowed for the preservation of historical records, literature, and legal documents.
Furthermore, the Christianization of the Anglo-Saxons brought them into closer contact with the wider Christian world, facilitating cultural exchange and trade. Monasteries and churches became centers of learning, fostering the spread of knowledge and artistic endeavors.

Alternative historical scenarios could be imagined if the Anglo-Saxons had retained their pagan traditions. In such a scenario, the society might have maintained its warrior culture, worshipping the old gods and engaging in tribal conflicts. The absence of Christian ethics might have resulted in a different set of moral values.

**Moreover, without the Christian Church's influence, the written language might not have been as widespread, which could have led to a dearth of historical records and written literature. The cultural exchange with continental Europe might also have been limited, potentially altering the trajectory of British history.**

**In conclusion, the adoption of Christianity by the early Anglo-Saxons had a lasting impact on their culture, society, and the course of history. It brought about a new moral code, literacy, and a connection to the wider Christian world. While alternative scenarios can be contemplated, it is undeniable that Christianity played a pivotal role in shaping the Anglo-Saxon identity and history.**