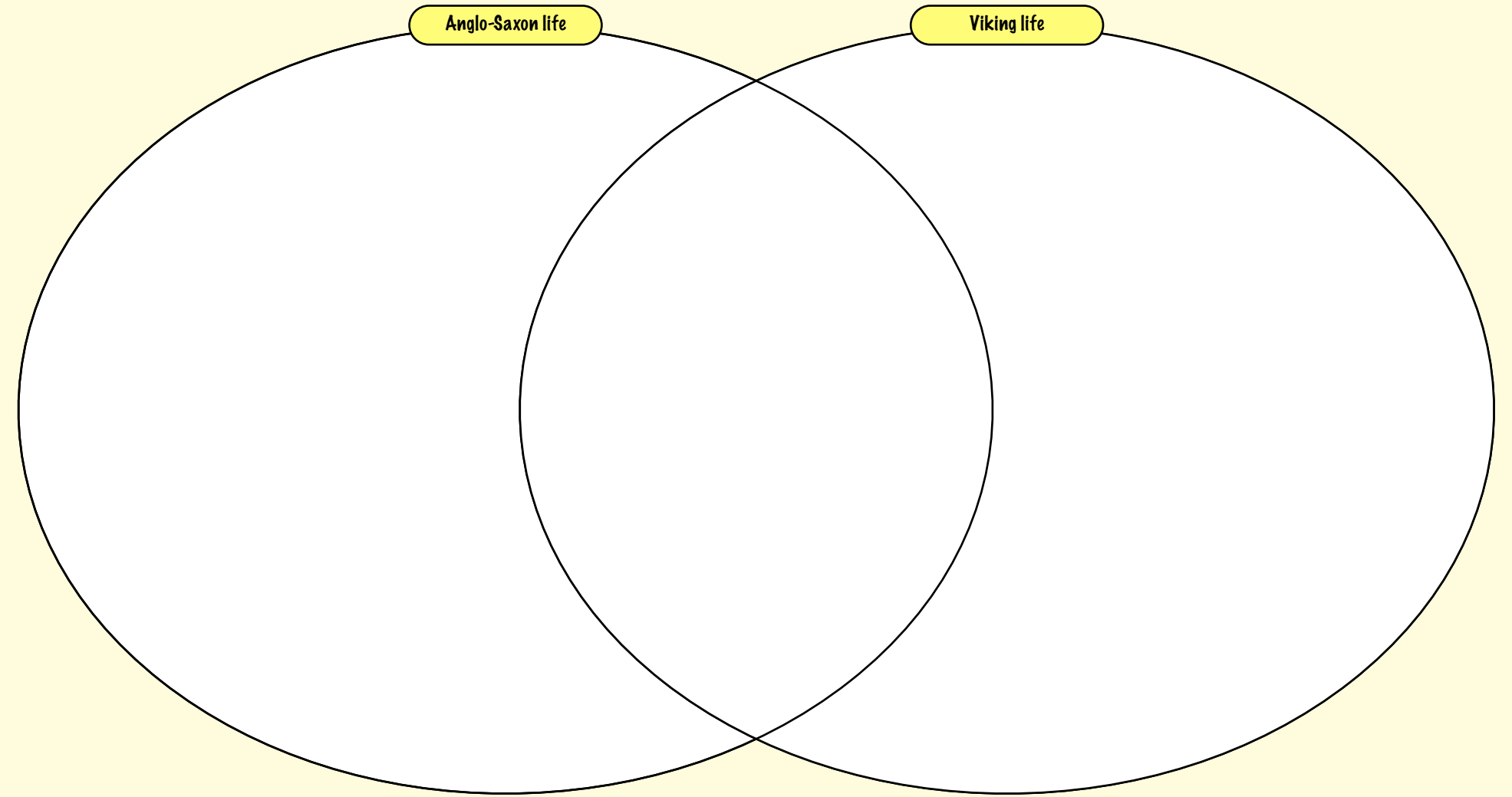


Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

How was life similar or different for the Anglo-Saxons living in the southwest of England and the Vikings living under the Danelaw?

Anglo-Saxon life

Viking life



# Vikings vs Anglo-Saxons

# Sentence Cards A

They lived in houses made from wood and mud.	They used runes to label possessions and graves, and to keep records.	They had kings, chieftains, freemen and slaves.
They spoke 'dönsk tunga' (Danish tongue).	Women made clothes by spinning wool into thread.	People who could write carved letters onto wood, stone and other materials.
They had kings, nobles, thanes, freemen and slaves.	They ate out at restaurants for special occasions.	Children only went to school from the ages of five to ten.
Only kings had electricity in their homes.	They used Latin and English to write history books and holy texts.	Men were mainly farmers or craft workers.
Most people could not read or write.	People who could write wrote on parchment using ink.	They spoke English.

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# Vikings vs Anglo-Saxons

# Sentence Cards B

They lived in houses made from wood and mud with thatched roofs.	They used runes to label possessions and graves, and to keep records.	They had kings, chieftains, freemen and slaves.	They lived in houses made from wood and mud with thatched roofs.	They used runes to label possessions and graves, and to keep records.	They had kings, chieftains, freemen and slaves.	They lived in houses made from wood and mud with thatched roofs.	They used runes to label possessions and graves, and to keep records.	They had kings, chieftains, freemen and slaves.	They lived in houses made from wood and mud with thatched roofs.	They used runes to label possessions and graves, and to keep records.	They had kings, chieftains, freemen and slaves.
They spoke 'dönsk tunga' (Danish tongue).	Women made clothes by spinning wool into thread.	People who could write carved letters onto wood, stone and other materials.	They spoke 'dönsk tunga' (Danish tongue).	Women made clothes by spinning wool into thread.	People who could write carved letters onto wood, stone and other materials.	They spoke 'dönsk tunga' (Danish tongue).	Women made clothes by spinning wool into thread.	People who could write carved letters onto wood, stone and other materials.	They spoke 'dönsk tunga' (Danish tongue).	Women made clothes by spinning wool into thread.	People who could write carved letters onto wood, stone and other materials.
They had kings, nobles, thanes, churls and slaves.	They ate out at restaurants for special occasions.	Children only went to school from the ages of five to ten.	They had kings, nobles, thanes, churls and slaves.	They ate out at restaurants for special occasions.	Children only went to school from the ages of five to ten.	They had kings, nobles, thanes, churls and slaves.	They ate out at restaurants for special occasions.	Children only went to school from the ages of five to ten.	They had kings, nobles, thanes, churls and slaves.	They ate out at restaurants for special occasions.	Children only went to school from the ages of five to ten.
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Some homes used turf instead of thatch for their roofs.	Wealthy men earned money by renting out the land they owned to farmers.	They used coins for money.	Some homes used turf instead of thatch for their roofs.	Wealthy men earned money by renting out the land they owned to farmers.	They used coins for money.	Some homes used turf instead of thatch for their roofs.	Wealthy men earned money by renting out the land they owned to farmers.	They used coins for money.	Some homes used turf instead of thatch for their roofs.	Wealthy men earned money by renting out the land they owned to farmers.	They used coins for money.
They punished criminals using 'trial by ordeal'.	Laws were written down and trials were held to establish guilt.	They converted to Christianity once they settled in Britain.	They punished criminals using 'trial by ordeal'.	Laws were written down and trials were held to establish guilt.	They converted to Christianity once they settled in Britain.	They punished criminals using 'trial by ordeal'.	Laws were written down and trials were held to establish guilt.	They converted to Christianity once they settled in Britain.	They punished criminals using 'trial by ordeal'.	Laws were written down and trials were held to establish guilt.	They converted to Christianity once they settled in Britain.

## Use Viking runes to write messages

The Vikings who came over from Scandinavia used a set of symbols called runes to write. Each symbol represented a sound, just like our alphabet.

**Can you translate Viking runes into English, then use the letters to create your own secret messages for a friend to translate?**



## Explore the excavation of Coppergate

In the 1970s and 1980s, archaeologists carried out excavations at Coppergate in York. York, known as Jorvik, is thought to be the centre of Viking life in England.

**Can you find out about the Coppergate excavations? See if you can establish what was found, why objects were preserved so well and what this tells us about Viking life in England.**



## Read the Viking story of Beowulf

The Vikings told many stories known as sagas. One of the most famous is that of Beowulf which was eventually written down by an Anglo-Saxon monk in the 10th century.

**Read the story of Beowulf. What can you find out about Viking life from this story and what does the fact that it was written by an Anglo-Saxon monk tell you about England at the time?**



## Explore a map to locate Viking place names

Much of our language comes from the Old Norse Viking language, including place names.

**Use a map of England to help you find places with Viking names. Look for places with these suffixes:**

**-by -thorpe -holme -kirk -thwaite -ness**

**Are there any patterns as to where these places are? What does this tell you?**



Hrothgar, King of the Scyldings, gained glory in battle and his kinsmen gladly obeyed him. He ordered a great mead-hall to be built. The hall towered up, lofty and wide. But the mighty spirit who dwelt in darkness endured the torment of hearing the revelry in the hall each day. There was the sound of the harp, the clear song of the minstrel. The grim spirit was called Grendel.

He went when night fell and found all the thanes sleeping. He seized thirty of them and departed homewards, filling his dwelling with slaughter. At the breaking of day Hrothgar saw what had happened and sat empty of joy and sorrowed for his men. Grendel came the next night, and the next. Soon men began to sleep elsewhere to stay safe. Grendel waged war on Hrothgar for twelve long years.

Men did not know what to do. They sacrificed animals in their temples and prayed to their heathen gods that this would help them against the monster. They did not know the Lord God, the Ruler of glory.

Then a hero appeared at the beach in a boat filled with warriors. One of Hrothgar's thanes went to meet them and bring them to Hrothgar's hall. The strangers took off their armour and put aside their weapons. Hrothgar's herald said, "Why have you so many weapons? Who are you?"

The hero answered "I am Beowulf, companion of the King of the Geats. I will tell my errand to Hrothgar himself." Then Hrothgar spoke and said "I knew your father. He was a great warrior. They say you hold the strength of thirty men in your hand."

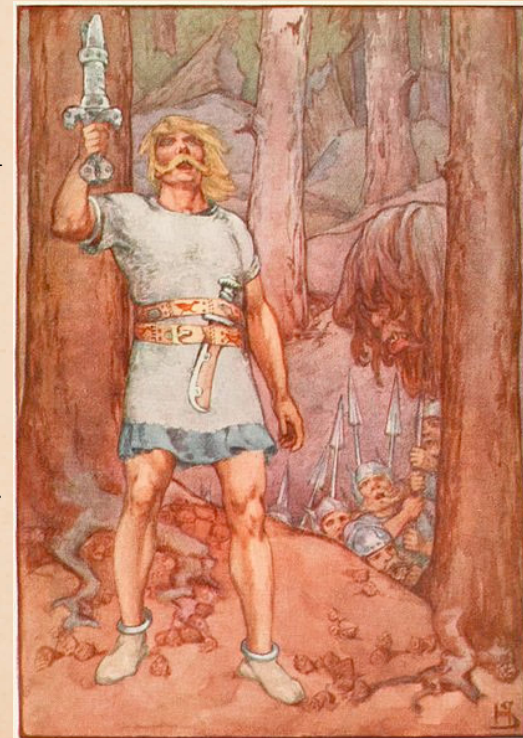
"Hrothgar," Beowulf said, "I alone will achieve this exploit against Grendel, the monster, the giant. The ravages of Grendel were made known to me in my native land. My people knew my strength in battle and counselled me to seek you out. As Grendel does not bear weapons, nor will I, but will sieze the fiend, foe against foe."

Everyone celebrated in the hall that night. There was music, singing and laughter. Then all but the Geats left and Beowulf put aside his weapons to ready himself against the coming of the monster.

All fell asleep, save one. Then from the moor under the misty cliffs came Grendel. He tore open the entry of the hall, enraged. A baleful light like flame flared from his eyes. He did not delay. He seized a sleeping warrior, tore him asunder and drank the blood from his veins. He reached for Beowulf, but the hero was ready. He seized Grendel's hand in his strong grip.

Grendel had not met in the world a mightier hand grip. Fear grew in his mind and heart. The foul monster suffered pain in his body. A great wound was seen in his shoulder, the sinews sprang apart, the body burst open. Grendel must needs flee under the fen-cliffs mortally wounded. He knew too well the end of his life was come. Fame in war was granted to Beowulf.

Hrothgar gave Beowulf a golden ensign as a reward, an ornamented banner with a handle, a helmet and a corslet, a famous precious sword.



F a	B b	< c	W d	M e	f f	X g	H h	i	≅ j	< k	l l	M m
t n	o o	p p	q q	R r	s s	↑ t	∩ u	P v	P w	x	∫ y	Y z

Can you translate these runic messages using the alphabet above to help you?

↑N|S SNI|MMW

---

BM↑o↑XS ↑o BsoRt

---

|Ro↑S|MM, ↑NM MoS↑

---

fMFRSoMM PFRR|oR |t

---

F↑↑ S<F↑W|↑F↑|F

---

NMRM ↑|MS SPMJ↑

---

fOR<BMFRW <|tX o↑

---

WM↑MFR<.

---

CRMCFRM ↑NM

---

↑o↑XBof↑S. PM

---

F↑↑F<< F↑ WFP↑

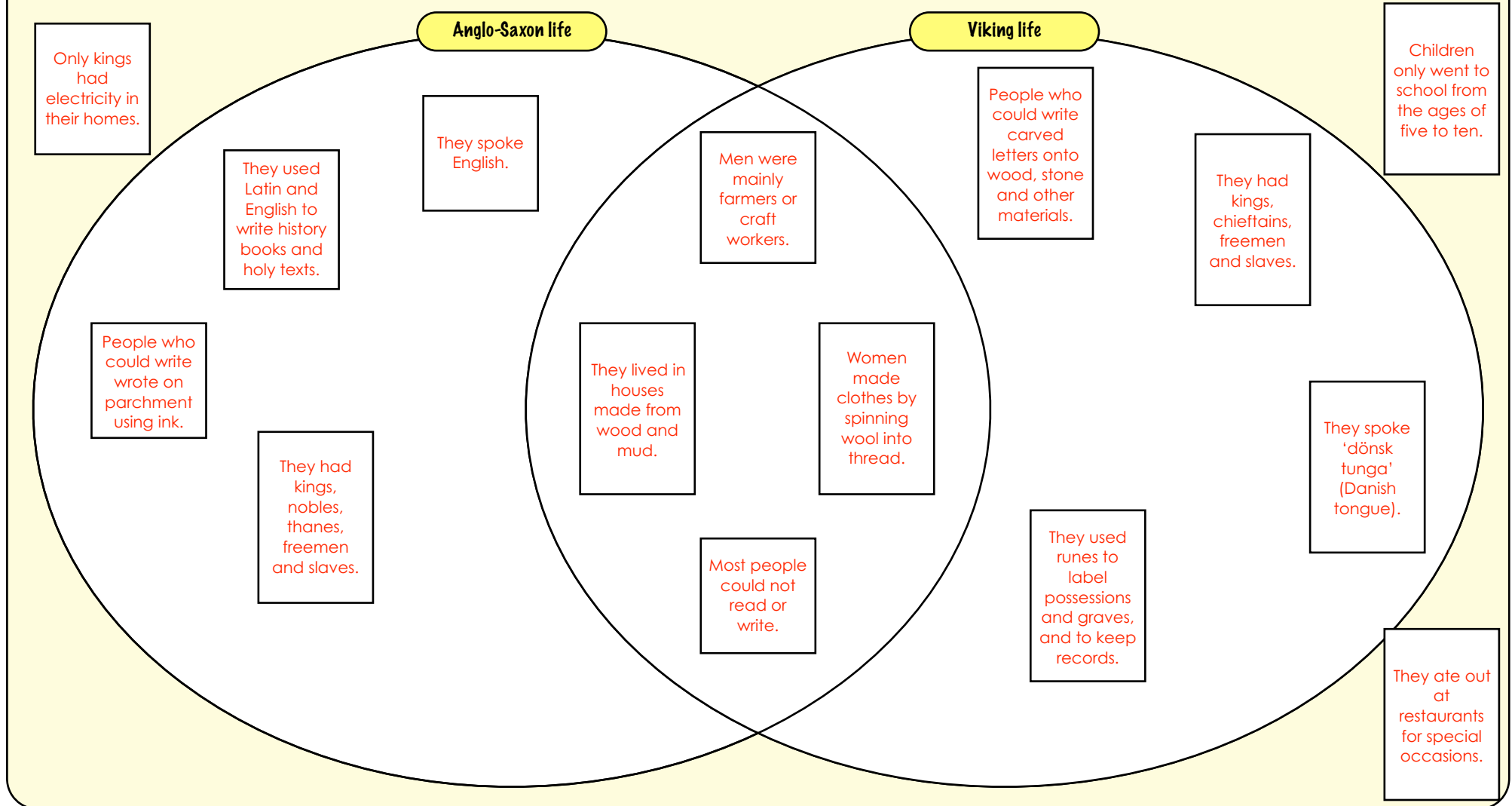
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Now write your own secret messages for a friend to crack!



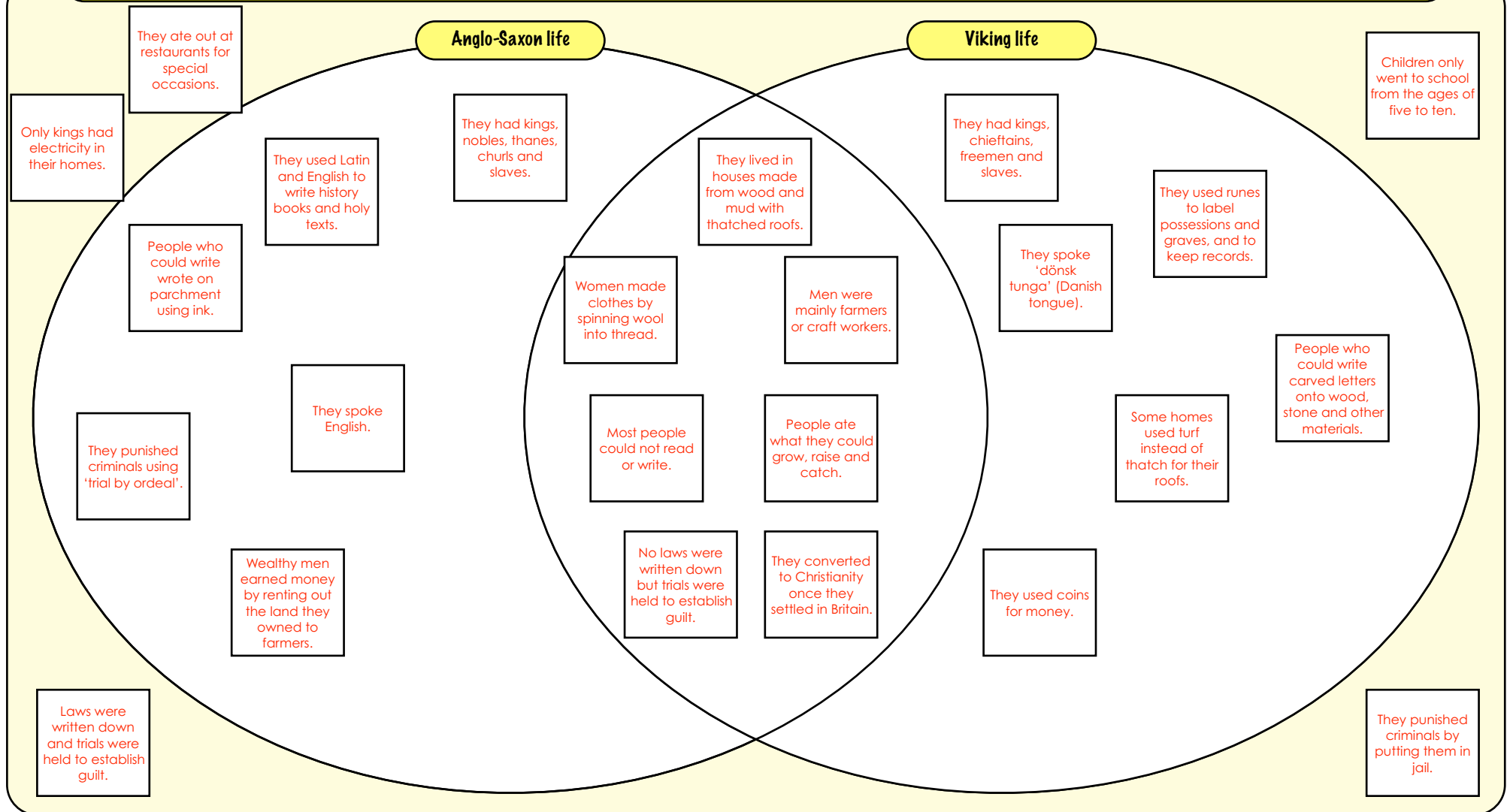
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

How was life similar or different for the Anglo-Saxons living in the southwest of England and the Vikings living under the Danelaw?



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

How was life similar or different for the Anglo-Saxons living in the southwest of England and the Vikings living under the Danelaw?





F a	B b	< c	W d	M e	f f	X g	H h	i	≋ j	< k	Γ l	⌘ m
† n	⊗ o	⌒ p	▷ q	R r	Σ s	↑ t	∩ u	Ɔ v	Ɔ w	x	∩ y	Υ z

Can you translate these runic messages using the alphabet above to help you?

↑N|Σ SN|MΓW  
This shield

---

BMΓ⊗†XS †⊗ B≋⊗R†  
belongs to Bjorn

---

|R⊗†Σ|WM, ↑NM M⊗S↑  
Ironsides, the most

---

ƆMFRS⊗MM ƆFRR|⊗R |†  
fearsome warrior in

---

F↑↑ Σ<F†W|†F↑|F  
all Scandinavia

NMRM Γ|MS ΣPMJ†  
Here lies Sweln

---

Ɔ⊗R<BMFRW <|†X ⊗Ɔ  
Forkbeard King of

---

WM†MFR<.  
Denmark.

⌒RM<FRM ↑NM  
Prepare the

---

Γ⊗†XB⊗F↑Σ. PM  
longboats. We

---

F↑↑F<< F↑ WFF†  
attack at dawn

Now write your own secret messages for a friend to crack!

