

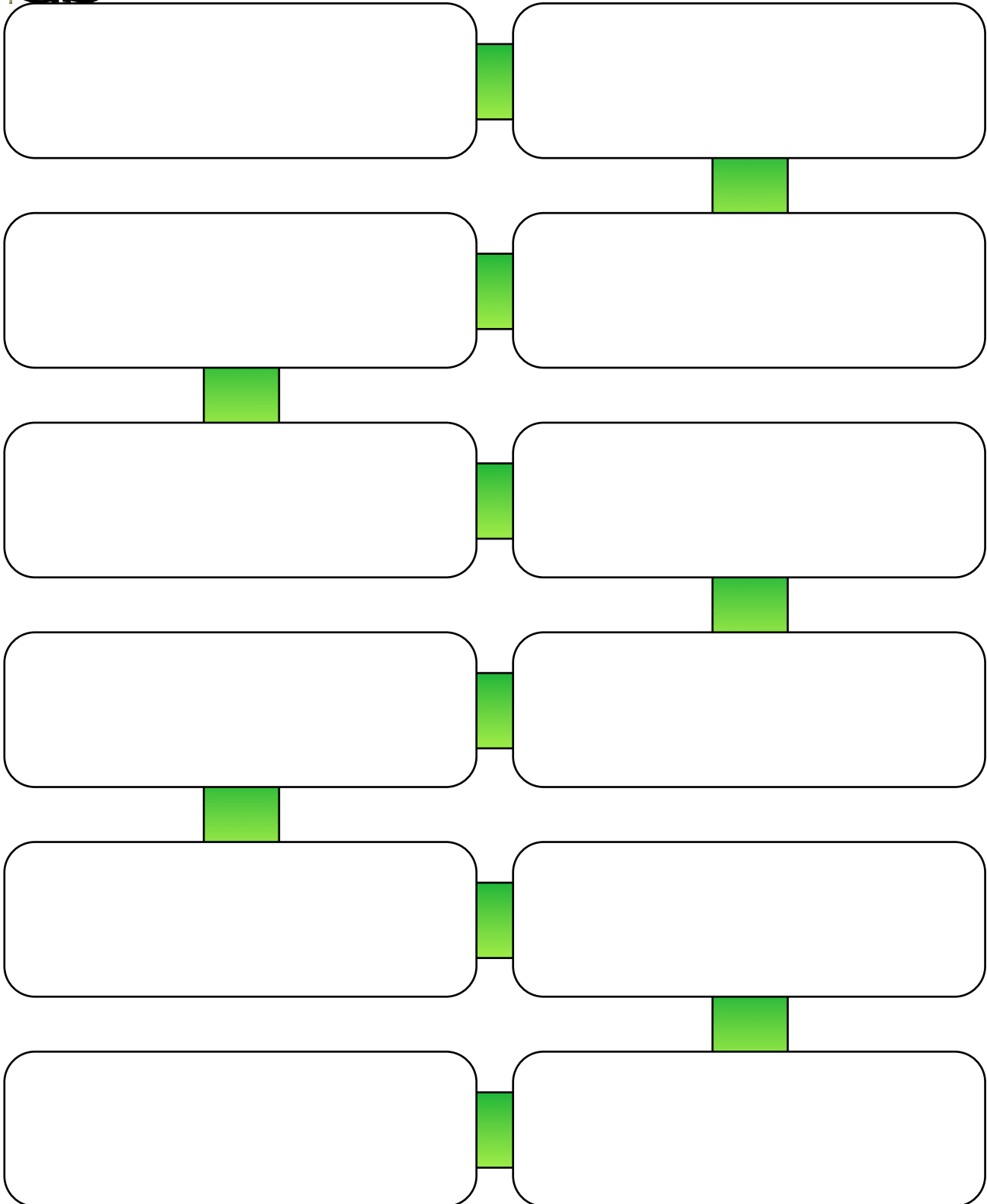
By 1015, Cnut had gained control of most of England but London remained loyal to Edmund who was crowned king at St Paul's Cathedral in 1016.	Cnut and Edmund came to an agreement. At first, a one-on-one combat between the two was agreed. However, Cnut didn't fancy his chances against Edmund who was famously strong (hence the name Ironside).
Sveyn died in 1013, just five weeks after he was declared king. On hearing the news of his death, Ethelred returned to England and was reinstated as king.	Ethelred died in 1016 and left the throne to his son, Edmund. The Witan decided that Sveyn's son, Cnut, should be king to promote peace and to stop the high Danegeld payments.
Instead, it was agreed that the lands of England would be split between Cnut and Edmund. When one or other of them died, the remaining lands would pass to the survivor.	In 1009, Sveyn sent a huge army to England. Ethelred fled to Normandy and in 1013, Sveyn was declared king of England.
Edward was only 13 when he became king. Ethelred, his half-brother, and Ethelred's mother, plotted his murder. He died in 978 at the age of 16.	Sveyn of Denmark began a series of attacks on England in 1002. Ethelred paid him Danegeld to keep him out of England but the attacks continued.
Cnut did not have to wait long. Edmund died just a few months later in November 1016.	Ethelred became king at the age of 7 in 978. He was not advised well and was a weak king. The Danish king, Sveyn, decided to take advantage of this.
Cnut became the first king to be ruler of all the kingdoms of England. His reign was very successful. He died in 1035.	King Edgar died in 975 after a strong reign. He had two surviving sons, Edward and Ethelred. The eldest, Edward, became king.

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Cnut became the first king to be ruler of all the kingdoms of England. His reign was very successful. He died in 1035.	King Edgar died in 975 after a strong reign. He had two surviving sons, Edward and Ethelred. The eldest, Edward, became king.

Name: _____ Date: _____



Read the Character Cards to find out how the whole of England came under the control of a single Danish king.
Complete the flow diagram to show what happened.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Find out about each of these key historical figures to establish what happened between the reign of King Edgar and 1016 when England came under the control of a single Viking king.



Edgar the Peaceful

Edward the Martyr

Ethelred the Unready

Edmund Ironside

Sveyn Forkbeard

Cnut the Great



Edward the Martyr

- ❖ I was the son of King Edgar.
- ❖ When my father died in 975, I became king. I was 13 years old.
- ❖ The beginning of my reign was very successful.
- ❖ In 978, my half-brother Ethelred and his mother Elfrida ordered my murder. I was stabbed in the back. I escaped and tried to get help but I died on the road.



Sveyn Forkbeard

- ❖ I was the son of King Harald Bluetooth of Denmark.
- ❖ I became King of Denmark in 986 when I revolted against my father. I also ruled most of Norway.
- ❖ I started raiding England in 1002 as I knew England had a young, weak king who wasn't being advised well.
- ❖ I was paid Danegeld but kept attacking anyway.
- ❖ I was declared King of England in 1013 but I died just five weeks later.



Edgar the Peaceful

- ❖ I became King of all England in 959.
- ❖ During my reign, England was peaceful and prosperous. My court was admired across Europe.
- ❖ I had four children, including three sons called Edward, Edmund and Ethelred.
- ❖ I died in 975, leaving the throne to my eldest son, Edward.



Edmund Ironside

- ❖ I became king in 1016 when my father, King Ethelred, died.
- ❖ When my father died, the Witan (Wessex Grand Council) decided Sveyn's son, Cnut, should be King of all England, but the people of London wanted me to be king. I was crowned at St Paul's Cathedral on 14th April 1016.
- ❖ I reached an agreement with Cnut the Great but I died just a few months later.



Cnut the Great

- ❖ I was the son of King Sveyn.
- ❖ In 1015, I gained control of almost all of England, apart from London.
- ❖ The Witan (Wessex Grand Council) decided they wanted me to be king since it would be better to have a Danish king than to keep being attacked and having to pay Danegeld.
- ❖ In 1016, an agreement was made between me and Edmund Ironside. We partitioned England on the agreement that the rest of the lands would pass to the other once one of us died.
- ❖ Edmund died just a few months later and I became the first person to be king over all the lands of England.
- ❖ My reign in England was very successful.



Ethelred the Unready

- ❖ I became king in 978 at the age of 7 after King Edward's murder.
- ❖ King Sveyn from Denmark attacked England many times during my reign. I paid them Danegeld to leave England alone.
- ❖ In 1009, Sveyn sent an enormous army to England. I fled to Normandy.
- ❖ When Sveyn died in 1014, I returned to England to be king again.
- ❖ I died in 1016. I left the throne to my son Edmund.

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Edward was only 13 when he became king. Ethelred, his half-brother, and Ethelred's mother, plotted his murder. He died in 978 at the age of 16.

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Ethelred became king at the age of 7 in 978. He was not advised well and was a weak king. The Danish king, Sveyn, decided to take advantage of this.

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Instead, it was agreed that the lands of England would be split between Cnut and Edmund. When one or other of them died, the remaining lands would pass to the survivor.

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Cnut did not have to wait long. Edmund died just a few months later in November 1016.