# The early history of Britain

# Britain was invaded by different people

#### **THE IBERIANS**

They were the first inhabitants of Britain. They came from the Mediterranean area. They left many examples of "standing stones" and stone circles like Stonehenge.



#### THE CELTS

They came from Central Europe.
They were tall, fair-haired people.
They used iron for thier weapons.
They had many Gods and their priests, called

Druids, used magic arts and human sacrifices.



#### **THE ROMANS**

They called Britain "Britannia".

They built roads and towns (London, York). They never conquered Scotland and built a huge wall between Britain and Scotland:

Hadrian's Wall.



#### **THE ANGLO-SAXONS**

They began to move towards the island in the 5th century. Then "Britannia" was called "Land of Angles" – or, as we say, England.

They formed several small kingdoms.

They spoke different Germanic dialects.



#### THE VIKINGS

They attacked Britain in the 9th century. They were fierce warriors and very good sailors.

They came from Scandinavia in long ships.



## **THE NORMANS**

William, Duke of Normandie, crossed the Channel with his army and conquered Britain. He defeated Harold of Wessex at the Battle of Hastings.

The Normans came from France.

They introduced the feudal system, built lots of castles, churches and fortresses.



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# **Activity 1: questions**

#### THE IBERIANS

Who were the Iberians? Where did they come from? What did they leave?



### THE CELTS

Where did they come from? How were they? Did they know the iron? Who were the Druids?



#### **THE ROMANS**

How did they call Britain? What cities did they build? Did they conquere Scotland? What is the Hadrian's Wall?



#### **THE ANGLO-SAXONS**

When did they arrive in Britain? How was Britain called? What did they forme? Which languages did they speak?



## THE VIKINGS

When did they attacked Britain? Were they good sailors? Where did they come from?



## **THE NORMANS**

Who crossed the Channel and conquered Britain? Which is the name of the famous Battle? Where did they come from? What did they build?



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## Activity 2: fill in the gaps

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