

The Anglo Saxons

Introduction to Beowulf

Flash Question: Where does our language come from?



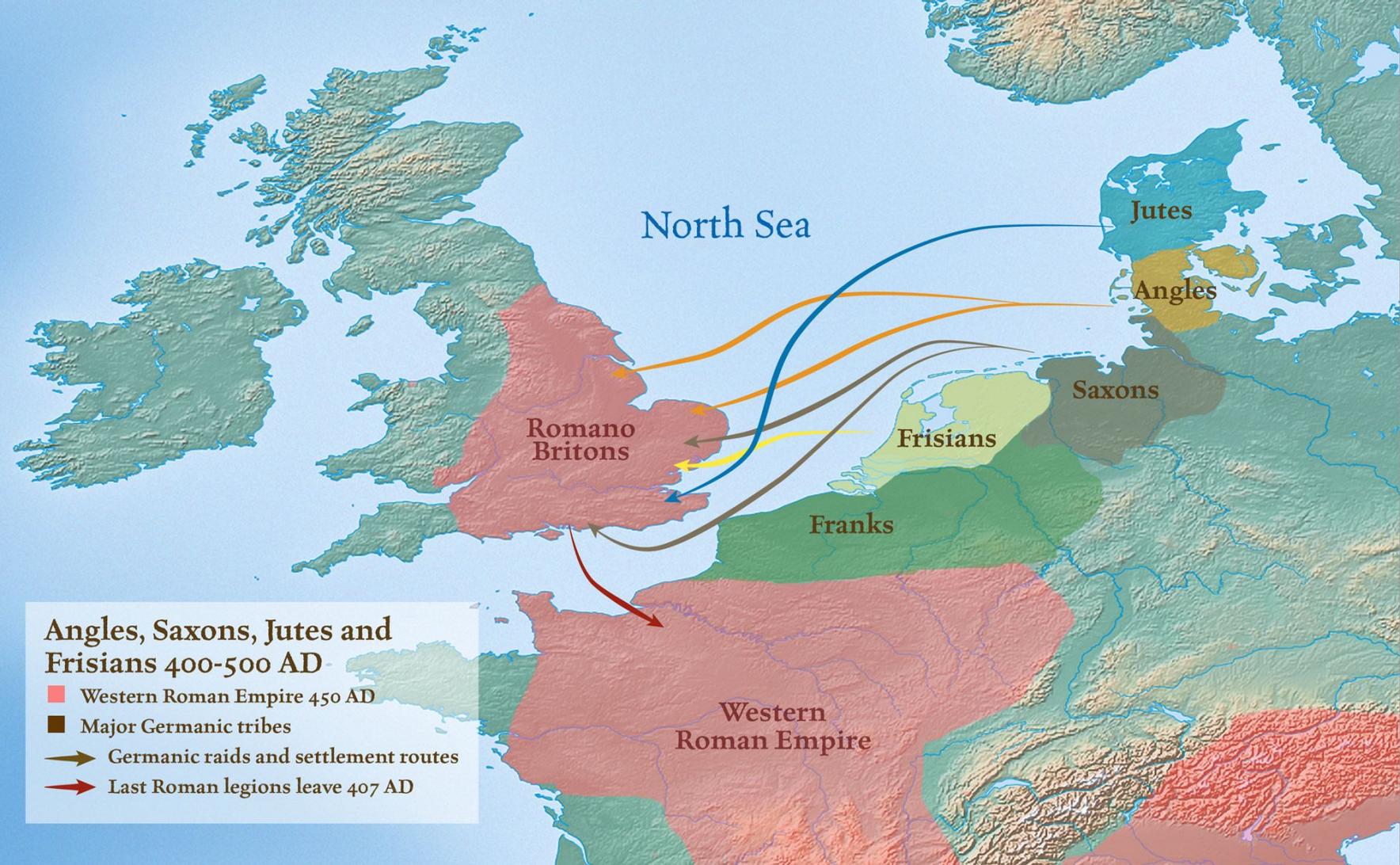
What language do we speak? Where does it come from? What countries before us spoke the same language?

Our language is a
Germanic language,
mostly stemming
from the group of
people called the
Anglo Saxons

The Anglo Saxons

-Began in 449

-They started as separate groups, known as the Angles and the Saxons.



North Sea

Jutes

Angles

Romano Britons

Frisians

Saxons

Franks

Western Roman Empire

Angles, Saxons, Jutes and Frisians 400-500 AD

- Western Roman Empire 450 AD
- Major Germanic tribes
- Germanic raids and settlement routes
- Last Roman legions leave 407 AD

The Big Move

- For a while, the Romans had taken hold of Great Britain, until 410 when they left
- Groups started taking advantage of the new open land, and the Jutes and Frisians moved in
- The Anglo-Saxons come in fighting and ultimately claim most of Great Britain

What countries make up Great Britain?

This is our Great Britain Today



This was the Anglo Saxon Great Britain



Anglo Saxon Great Britain Includes:

Kent

Northcumbria

Mercia

Wessex

What The Anglo Saxons Brought

-A common language

-Farming

-longevity- said to last until 1066

Which of these is NOT part of Anglo Saxon history?

- A. The Angles and Saxons moved from Denmark and Germany to Great Britain
- B. There are 5 countries in Great Britain
- C. The most important thing brought was a common language

It Wasn't All That

-The Anglo Saxons were constantly defending their lands. Eventually having to worry about the Vikings and Norse/ Danes

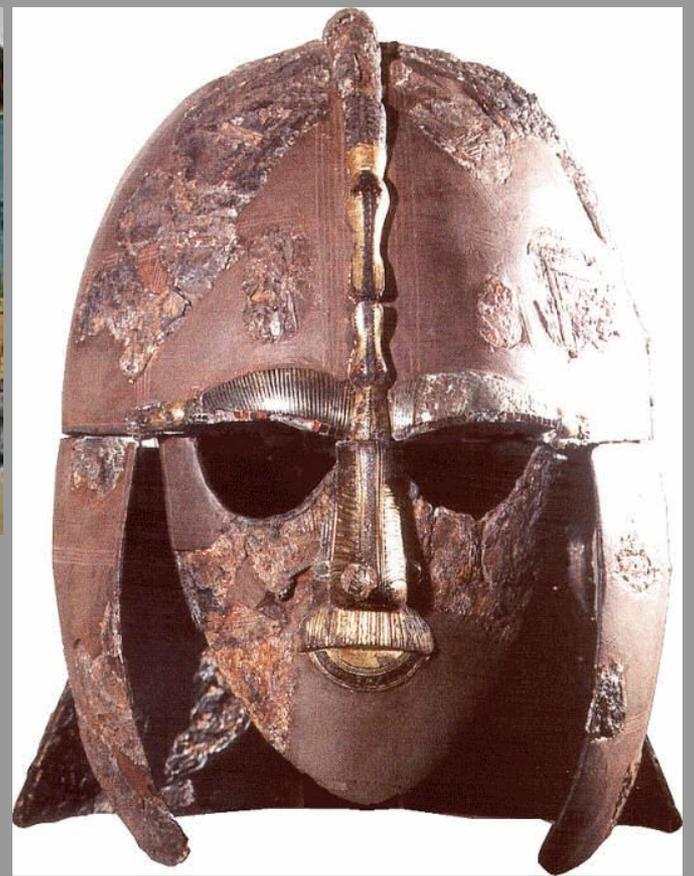
-King Alfred of Wessex was known to keep invaders out

-The Anglo Saxons also Disagreed quite often



But they both agreed on these values:

- They shared heroic ideals
- They shared the same love of art and poetry
- They were loyal to their leaders
- They admired men of outstanding courage
- They had a passion for over the top decor
- They adopted Christianity



The Anglo Saxon Arts

- An Anglo Saxon poet was called a scop (shoap)
- Much like a story teller
- The tale Beowulf is known as one of the earliest stories known to man
- They enjoyed riddles

Beowulf

- The story originated from Anglo-Saxon England
- No one knows who created it
- The poem is set in Scandinavia, at a palace called Herot

