

Name _____

Viking Voyages: Mastering the Art of Shipbuilding and Navigation

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The Vikings' shipbuilding and navigation skills enabled them to explore new lands, establish trade routes, and conduct raids successfully. These skills expanded their territories and influenced the regions they encountered.
2. Answers will vary, but students should consider the use of navigational tools, knowledge of the stars, understanding of seasons, and planning for contingencies.
3. Compare the sun compass's reliance on the sun's position with the magnetic compass's use of Earth's magnetic field. Discuss advantages and disadvantages of each method.
4. The Vikings' early exposure to the sea through fishing and boat construction built a foundation for their later mastery of shipbuilding and navigation. Their intimate knowledge of their coastal homeland and its challenges contributed to their success on the open seas.

