

Name _____

Vikings: Warriors, Explorers, and Skilled Traders

Short Answer Key

1. The Baltic Trade Route was significant for Viking traders as it connected Scandinavia to regions rich in valuable resources such as amber, furs, and slaves. It allowed Vikings to acquire and trade these commodities, contributing to their economic prosperity.
2. Vikings acquired commodities such as furs (e.g., foxes, bears, sables), timber (oak and pine), and slaves from northern regions like Scandinavia and Russia. These resources were valuable for various purposes, including clothing, shipbuilding, and trade.
3. Timber, especially oak and pine, was essential for Viking trade and society because it was used in shipbuilding and construction. Vikings relied on sturdy ships for both trade and exploration, making timber a crucial resource for their maritime activities.
4. Viking traders played a vital role in bridging cultures by engaging in trade with different regions. Through trade, they not only exchanged goods but also cultural influences, ideas, and technologies. This cultural exchange enriched Viking society and contributed to the transmission of knowledge.
5. Viking traders faced various challenges during their voyages, including rough seas, unpredictable weather, piracy, and the need to navigate unfamiliar waters. Additionally, they encountered different languages and cultures, requiring adaptability and negotiation skills.

