

Name _____

Viking Raiders: From Scandinavia to the World

Short Answer Key

1. Longships were central to Viking expeditions and warfare due to their sleek design and shallow draft. They allowed Vikings to navigate both open seas and shallow rivers, giving them a strategic advantage in raids and conquests.
2. Factors contributing to the decline of Viking influence included the spread of Christianity, internal conflicts and rivalries, and the Norman Conquest of England in 1066.
3. The Norman Conquest of England marked a significant turning point in Viking history because the Normans were descended from Viking settlers. This event further integrated Viking heritage into English culture.
4. The Vikings' exploration of North America, particularly their brief settlement in places like L'Anse aux Meadows, contributed to their legacy by demonstrating their early presence in the Americas, centuries before other European explorers.
5. The enduring legacy of the Vikings is evident in the languages, place names, and cultural traditions of the regions they settled. Additionally, their sagas and stories have been passed down through generations, providing insights into their way of life.

