

Name _____

Viking Raiders: From Scandinavia to the World

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Viking raids had a significant impact on the regions they targeted. They led to destruction, loss of life, and the plundering of valuable goods. These raids instilled fear and forced local populations to fortify their defenses. Additionally, Viking raids contributed to the spread of Viking cultural influences in these regions.
2. As a Viking explorer discovering North America, I would face challenges such as harsh weather, unfamiliar terrain, and encounters with indigenous peoples. The significance of my journey would lie in establishing a foothold in North America, leaving a mark on history, and opening the door to future exploration of the continent.
3. Viking religious beliefs were centered around Norse paganism, which included a pantheon of gods and goddesses. The spread of Christianity in Viking society led to the conversion of many Vikings to this new faith, resulting in the decline of Norse paganism. This shift had profound cultural and social implications.
4. Viking sagas and stories play a crucial role in preserving their cultural heritage. These narratives provide insights into their mythology, daily life, and social structures. They serve as valuable historical and literary sources, offering glimpses into the Viking worldview and values.

