
Word invasion



When the Vikings invaded, they brought their old Norse language with them. Believe it or not, we still use many Viking words today! Can you match the familiar word to its Viking origin?



Modern English	Old Norse
Thursday	<i>boltr</i> , meaning 'round object'
ugly	<i>slatra</i> , meaning 'to butcher'
window	<i>anгр</i> , meaning 'grief'
husband	<i>rangr</i> , meaning 'crooked' or 'unjust'
ball	<i>vindauga</i> , meaning 'wind-eye'
call	<i>Thor's Day</i> , the day of the week belonging to Thor, the Norse god of thunder.
slaughter	<i>husbondi</i> , meaning 'house holder'
anger	<i>skie</i> , meaning 'cloud'
sky	<i>kalla</i> , meaning 'cry loudly'
wrong	<i>uggligr</i> , meaning 'dreadful'



Viking surnames

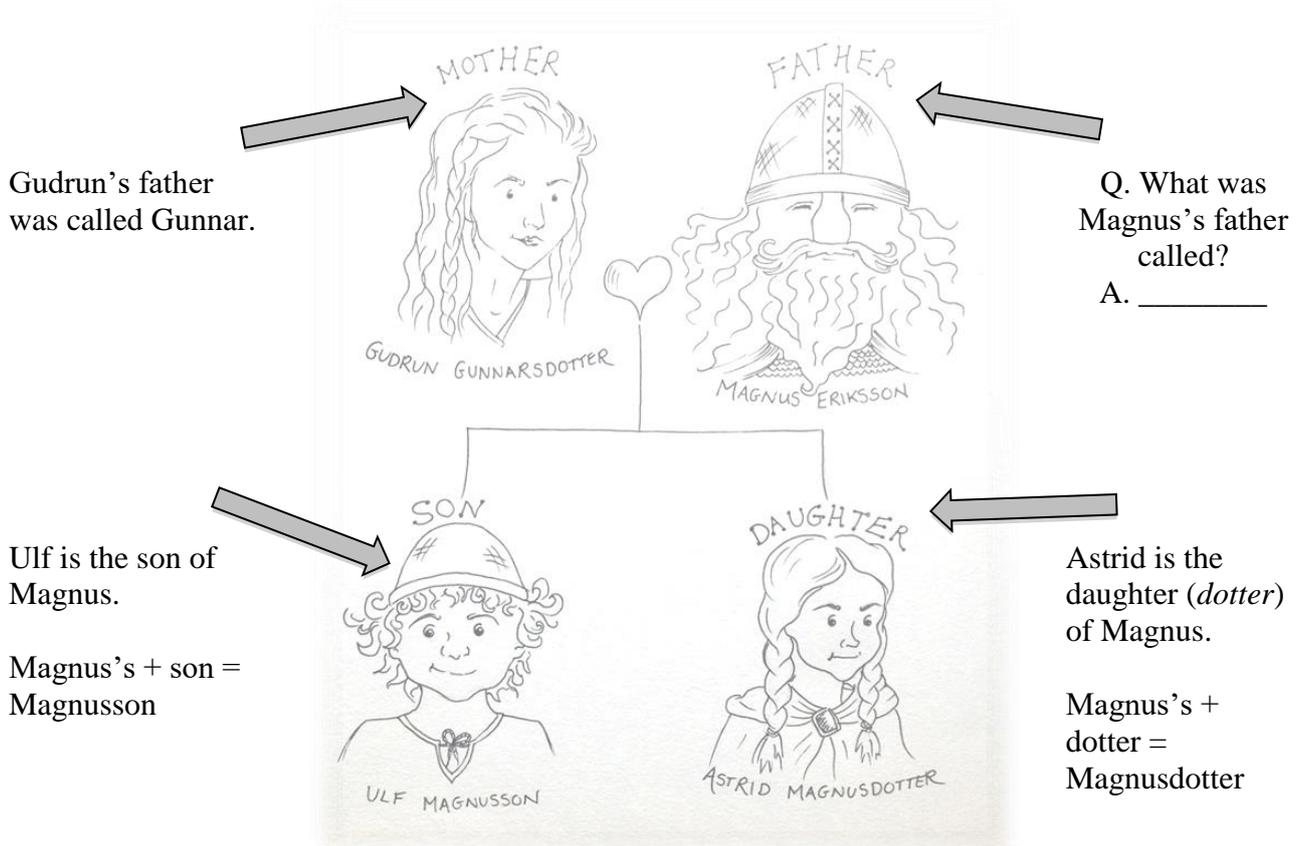
Viking surnames were made up of **two** parts.

The **first** part was your **father's first name** - for example, Sigurd.

The **second** part depended on whether you were **male** or **female**.

If you were a boy, your surname would be 'Sigurdsson' – literally, Sigurd's son.

If you were a girl, your surname would be 'Sigurdsdotter' – Sigurd's daughter.



What would your Viking name be?

Word invasion answers

1. Thursday = Thor's Day, meaning the day of the week belonging to Thor, the Norse God of Thunder.
2. ugly = uggligr, meaning 'dreadful'
3. window = vindauga, meaning 'wind eye'
4. husband = 'husbondi', meaning 'householder'
5. ball = 'bollr', meaning 'round object'
6. call = 'kalla', meaning 'cry loudly'
7. slaughter = 'slatra', meaning 'to butcher'
8. anger = 'angr', meaning 'grief'
9. sky = 'skie', meaning 'cloud'
10. wrong = 'rangr', meaning 'crooked' or 'unjust'

THE VIKINGS SETTLE DOWN

Below is a list of Viking words which have become part of our language. They are found in many English place names.

Using a map of England, can you find examples of towns or cities that have any of these endings? They might have been invaded by the Vikings! Hint: look at Yorkshire...

barrow = small hill

beck = brook or stream

blea = blue

by = farmhouse or dwelling

crag = rocky cliff

dale = valley

fell = mountain, high grazing

garth = fenced land or garden

gate = path or track

gill = ravine or deep cut in the earth

holm = island

how = hill

ing = meadow or pasture

keld = cold

kirk = church

knott = rocky hill

pike = mountain peak

rigg = ridge

saetr = cow pasture or high ground

scale = hut or shack

tarn = pond

thorpe = hamlet, village

thwaite = clearing

toft = homestead

ton = hedge or fence; later a farm

water = lake

wath = ford

(-ton and -ing are Anglo-Saxon as well as Viking)