

## Chapter 1 of The Dragon and The Raven

Vocabulary Words – Write a short definition of the following words: (The words are arranged in the order they appear in the chapter rather than alphabetically)

hummock
herbage
girded
fen (fenland)
abode
osier
coracle
withies
indolent
espoused
abbot
thane
prelates
vestments
retinue
serfs
guerdon
amalgamated

### **Chapter 1 Questions**

1. Describe the topography of Edmund's home.

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2. What type of fowl and vegetation can be found in the area?

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3. Edmund states that when his father and Egbert return they will be sharp-set. That is not a phrase we use often, if at all. What does it mean?

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4. How does Edmund describe the Danes?

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5. When the Anglo-Saxons invaded Britain in the AD 400's, they eventually established seven kingdoms. Name those kingdoms.

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6. What strange and novel doctrine does Edmund's father believe is best?

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7. Have you ever heard of a doctrine similar to the one Edmund's father believes in? Explain.

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### **Activities**

1. Compare and contrast the Danes and the Saxons. A Venn Diagram might be helpful.

2. Make a family tree showing the rulers mentioned in chapter one. Begin with Ethelwulf.

3. Begin a timeline of events. You will continue this activity throughout the entire book.

## Chapter 2

Vocabulary Words – Write a short definition of the following words: (The words are arranged in the order they appear in the chapter rather than alphabetically)

ealdorman
valiant
lethargy
prior
pikes
throng
contingent
shriving
penitents
marshaled
anew
buckler
impregnable
mail
scimitar
wielded
lithe
sinewy
vied
impetuous
compatriots
consternation
exhorted
entreaties
fastnesses
renown
station
resolute
jarls
hew
feign
phalanx
routed
prostrate

## Chapter 2 Questions

1. What type of animals do the men see as they travel in the thick forests?

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2. Describe the Fens, and where are they located?

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3. What originally made the Fens attractive to the native population?

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4. In the early Christian period of Anglo-Saxon England, a number of Christians located to the Fens and many monasteries were built there. Why is this so?

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5. A scout reported the Danes were “issuing” from their camp. What does that mean?

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6. What are the geographic boundaries of Yorkshire?

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7. Why is Egbert crying?

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8. Who is Tolius?

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## **Activities**

1. The beginning of this chapter describes in detail the dress of the men and their weapons. Illustrate all three men using the descriptions in this chapter as your guide.
2. Weapons are discussed in the battle scene. Pick two weapons to research, illustrate, and write about.
3. Research and learn about burial customs for the Danes.  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norse\\_funeral](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norse_funeral)  
<http://www.danishnet.com/info.php/vikings/burial-customs-134.html>
4. Continue your timeline.