

THE VIKINGS

Match the following words with the correct number in the text:

CREMATED SWEDEN FREY LANDOWNERS NORTH AMERICA ETYMOLOGY VIKINGR GODDESSES KARLS CONTEMPRARY THEORIES

The Vikings originated from what we know today as Denmark, _____, and Norway. They settled in England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Iceland, Greenland, _____, and some parts of Europe.

The _____ of the word Viking is uncertain. There are a lot of _____ about the origin of the word "Viking". One mentions that the old Norse word _____ usually meant "pirate" or "raider." This old word was used from the 12th to the 14th century and was diverted from an earlier Old Scandinavian word _____ to the Vikings themselves.

They were pagans and believed in many gods and _____ like Odin, Thor, or _____. They had a belief that after life they travelled to other worlds. When they died, they were _____ or buried with possessions and sacrifices.

Their society was divided into three different classes: _____ who were freemen and _____; jarls who were wealthy nobles who maintained the well-being of their subjects; and thralls who were either slaves or bondsmen. The last two had to work for other men until they could pay their debt.