KING ARTHUR
(2004)

In the 5th century AD, the declining Roman Empire is withdrawing from Britannia, where the native Woad warriors, led by Merlin, stage an insurgency. A group of Sarmatian knights and their half-British Roman commander Artorius Castus, known as "Arthur", have fulfilled their duties to Rome and are preparing to return home. Arthur himself plans to continue his career in Rome until Bishop Germanus orders them to complete one final mission: evacuate an important Roman family from north of Hadrian's Wall, saving them from an advancing army of invading Saxons led by the ruthless Cerdic and his son, Cynric. Alecto, the son of the family patriarch, is a viable candidate to be a future Pope. Arthur and his remaining men – Lancelot, Tristan, Galahad, Bors, Gawain, and Dagonet – reluctantly accept the mission.

Arriving at their destination, they find that the Roman patriarch Marius, who refuses to leave, has enslaved the local population, enraging Arthur. He discovers a cell complex containing a number of dead Woads and two tortured survivors — a young woman named Guinevere and her younger brother Lucan. Arthur frees them and gives Marius an ultimatum — leave with them willingly or otherwise be taken prisoner. He and his knights commandeer the homestead, and liberate its exploited people. The convoy flees into the mountains with the Saxons in pursuit. Marius leads an attempted coup but is slain by Guinevere. Arthur learns from Alecto that Germanus and his fellow bishops had Arthur's childhood mentor and father figure, Pelagius,executed for heresy. This further disillusions Arthur with the Roman way of life, a process that matures when Guinevere and Merlin remind Arthur of his connection to the island of Britain through his Celtic mother.

Arthur leads the pursuing Saxons, led by Cynric, through a pass crossing a frozen lake. As battle ensues, Dagonet sacrifices himself to crack the lake ice with his axe, disrupting the Saxon advance. The knights safely deliver Alecto and his mother to Hadrian's wall and are officially discharged. Arthur, having concluded that his destiny lies with his mother's people, decides to engage the Saxons despite Lancelot's pleas to leave with them. The night before the battle, he and Guinevere make love, and on the following day, Arthur meets Cerdic under a white flag of parley, vowing to kill him. He is soon joined by Lancelot and his fellow knights, who decide to fight. In the climactic Battle of Badon Hill, the Woads and knights whittle the Saxon army. Guinevere engages Cynric, who overwhelms her. Lancelot aids her and kills Cynric but is fatally wounded. Cerdic kills Tristan before facing off against Arthur, who kills the Saxon leader, condemning the invaders to defeat.

Arthur and Guinevere marry and Merlin proclaims Arthur as King of the Britons. United by their defeat of the Saxons and the retreat of the Romans, Arthur promises to lead the Britons against any future invaders. Three horses that had belonged to Tristan, Dagonet and Lancelot run free across the landscape, as the closing narrative from Lancelot describes how fallen knights live on in tales passed from generation to generation.

INTERESTING FACTS

1. King Arthur was a legendary British leader in the 5th-6th centuries.
2. He is said to have led the defense of Britain from Saxon invaders.
3. Arthur was described as a great soldier and leader but also a devoted Christian.
4. Later legends associate him with magical powers, chivalry, and the quest for the Holy Grail.
5. The earliest stories of Arthur were written by Geoffrey of Monmouth in 1136.
6. Merlin is often seen as an advisor to Arthur in literature and legend.
7. The famous magical sword, Excalibur, is associated with King Arthur.
8. Camelot is often seen as the site of Arthur's court in popular culture.
9. Arthur and his knights of the Round Table are prime examples of medieval chivalry.
10. Traditionally, the death of King Arthur is intertwined with the fall of Camelot.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1. EXPLAIN IN ENGLISH THE MEANING OF THE WORDS IN RED. (In your notebook)

2. SAY IF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE TRUE OR FALSE:

1. Arthur and his knights were Roman soldiers. **TRUE OR FALSE**
2. The Saxons were led by Cerdic and his daughter Cynric. **TRUE OR FALSE**
3. Arthur's mentor and father figure, Pelagius, was executed for heresy. **TRUE OR FALSE**
4. Arthur and Guinevere get married before the Battle of Badon Hill. **TRUE OR FALSE**
5. Arthur leads the Britons against future invaders. **TRUE OR FALSE**
6. Bishop Germanus orders Arthur and his knights to evacuate a Roman family. **TRUE OR FALSE**
7. Guinevere and Merlin remind Arthur of his connection to Rome. **TRUE OR FALSE**
8. Arthur and his knights liberate a homestead from the Saxons. **TRUE OR FALSE**
9. Dagonet sacrifices himself to crack the lake ice. **TRUE OR FALSE**
10. Lancelot kills Cynric in the Battle of Badon Hill. **TRUE OR FALSE**

3. KEY VOCABULARY AND DEFINITIONS. MATCH THE WORDS WITH THE DEFINITIONS

DEFINITIONS:	**LETTER OF DEFINITION**	**WORDS:**
a. To defeat someone or something in a fight or competition.		1. Chivalry
b. Very brave and determined.		2. Mystic
c. To use something, especially a weapon, with skill and strength.		3. Camelot
d. Having special magical powers.		4. To battle
e. A medieval town or fortress that was the home of a king or nobleman.		5. Fate
f. The system of moral qualities expected of knights in the Middle Ages.		7. Excalibur
g. To take part in a sport or game in which two people or teams compete against each other.		8. To joust
h. A legendary British leader who was said to have ruled in the late 5th and early 6th centuries.		10. Powerful
i. An event that will happen in the future and cannot be changed.		11. Wield
j. A sword of great power that is said to have belonged to King Arthur.		12. Knights
k. A group of soldiers or warriors who are loyal to their leader.		13. Courageous
L. To try to find or get something.		14. To seek
M. Having or showing a lot of physical or mental strength.		16. King Arthur
N. To fight or struggle against someone or something.		17. To vanquish

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4. CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION

1. Who is the leader of the Woad warriors?

A. Artorius Castus
B. Bishop Germanus
C. Merlin
D. Cerdic

2. What is the mission given to Arthur and his knights by Bishop Germanus?

A. To lead an insurgency against the Saxons
B. To evacuate a Roman family from north of Hadrian's Wall
C. To continue Arthur's career in Rome
D. To defeat the invading Saxons

3. Who is Alecto?

A. The son of the Roman patriarch
B. The leader of the Sarmatian knights
C. A viable candidate to be a future Pope
D. Arthur's childhood mentor and father figure

4. What does Arthur discover when he arrives at their destination?

A. A cell complex containing a number of dead Woads
B. A Roman family enslaved by Marius
C. An advancing army of Saxons
D. A white flag of parley

5. How does Dagonet sacrifice himself?

A. By killing Cynric
B. By leading the Saxons through a pass
C. By cracking the lake ice with his axe
D. By engaging Cerdic under a white flag of parley

6. What is the result of the Battle of Badon Hill?

A. The Saxons are victorious
B. Arthur kills Cerdic
C. Guinevere is killed by Cynric
D. The Saxons are defeated

7. What does Arthur promise to do after the Saxons are defeated?

A. To lead the Britons against any future invaders
B. To marry Guinevere
C. To become King of the Britons
D. To retreat with the Romans

8. Who kills Cynric?

A. Guinevere
B. Tristan
C. Lancelot
D. Arthur

9. What is the fate of Pelagius?

A. He is killed by Cerdic
B. He is executed for heresy
C. He is liberated by Arthur
D. He is made a Pope

10. What happens to the horses that belonged to Tristan, Dagonet and Lancelot?

A. They are killed in the Battle of Badon Hill
B. They are taken prisoner by the Saxons
C. They are liberated by Arthur
D. They run free across the landscape

LIVEWORKSHEETS