

# 'VIKING CHALLENGE' ACTIVITY SHEET ANSWERS

The 'Viking Challenge' Activity Sheet has been developed as an engaging way for young people to interact with the Viking Age Ireland Exhibition at the National Museum of Ireland – Archaeology.

For more information on the themes and topics covered in this activity sheet and to discover other activity sheets and resources, please contact:

## Education & Outreach Department

National Museum of Ireland – Archaeology

Kildare Street

Dublin 2

Telephone: 00 353 1 648 6332/1 648 6314

Website: [www.museum.ie](http://www.museum.ie)

## QUESTION 1 : PAGES 4 & 5

Follow the trail on the exhibition plan and find the objects shown in the pictures. Can you complete their names? **Fill in the missing letters.**

W\_r\_i\_r Sk\_le\_to\_ = **Warrior Skeleton**

W\_\_\_\_bone P\_aq\_\_ = **Whalebone Plaque**

O\_\_l Br\_\_c\_es = **Oval Brooches**

I\_o\_ S\_\_rd = **Iron Sword**

V\_k\_n\_ H\_u\_e = **Viking House**

A\_\_ma\_ He\_de\_ H\_n\_l\_ = **Animal Headed Handle**

Le\_\_her B\_o\_ = **Leather Boot**

D\_\_r An\_t\_er C\_m\_ = **Deer Antler Comb**

Am\_e\_ = **Amber**

W\_lr\_s Iv\_r\_ Di\_\_ = **Walrus Ivory Dice**

Si\_\_er C\_\_ns = **Silver Coins**

S\_lv\_r B\_\_och\_\_ = **Silver Brooches**

## QUESTION 2 : PAGES 6 & 7:

Excavation Report: Imagine you are an archaeologist and you have discovered the two skeletons shown in the picture. **Write your report below!**

### BURIAL A:

**What artefacts were found with this burial:**

1. **Axe**
2. **Sword**

**What could these artefacts have been used for?**

1. **Chopping down trees/ As a weapon**
2. **As a weapon**

Do you think Burial A is that of a man or a woman?

**Man.**

### BURIAL B:

**What artefacts were found with this burial:**

#### 3. WHALEBONE PLAQUE

Clothes made from linen or wool would have been placed on top of the plaque. A round heated piece of glass would have been rubbed over the top of the clothes to smooth out creases. This was a Viking Age version of an ironing board!

#### 4. OVAL BROOCHES

A brooch is used to fasten clothes together. Viking women would have used these to fasten the straps of a type of apron called a pinafore.

## QUESTION 3 : PAGE 8

Find the case with the Silver Brooches.

Use the Exhibition Plan on pages 4 and 5 to help you.

**Can you name these artefacts made from silver?**

- **Thistle Brooch**
- **Arm Ring**

## QUESTION 4 : PAGE 8

Imagine you are a Viking trader and you have a balance scales like the one in the picture. The gold bracelet is on one side of the scales and there are 75 weights on the other side to balance the scales. Each weight weighs 5 grams.

**How many grams does the gold bracelet weigh?**

Use the box below to work out the sum.

*Multiply 75 weights by 5 grams.*

**The gold bracelet weighs 375 grams.**

### QUESTION 5 : PAGE 9

Use the runic alphabet to help you name all the different part of the sword:

- Pommel
- Grip
- Hilt
- Guard
- Blade

### QUESTION 6 : PAGE 9

Write your name on the blade of the sword in English or in Runes

### QUESTION 7 : PAGE 10/11

Look at the picture.  
Can you match the person to their house?

1. Astrid = C
2. Erik = B
3. Domhnall = A

### QUESTION 8 : PAGE 12

Draw a line to link the ARTEFACT to the MATERIAL that it is made from and what SOURCE it originally came from.

#### FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

- The plaque is carved from the bone of a whale.
- The comb is made from the antler of a deer.
- The shoe is made from leather from a cow.
- The amber bead is made from resin which comes from pine trees.
- The dice is made from ivory from the tusk of a walrus.
- The finial is carved from the wood of an oak tree.

