St Meryl School

History Vocabulary List for Year 5

Anglo-Saxons and Vikings:

Raid – A sudden attack to steal or cause damage.
Longship – A fast, narrow Viking ship with oars and sails.
Danelaw – The part of England controlled by the Vikings.
Treaty – An agreement between two groups, often to stop conflict.
Runes – Letters of the Viking and Anglo-Saxon alphabets.
Settlement – A place where a group of people live.
Thane – A powerful Anglo-Saxon nobleman.
Saga – A long story about heroic deeds, often told by Vikings.
Plunder – To steal goods during a raid.
Shield Wall – A military tactic where soldiers form a wall with shields.
Jarl – A Viking leader or nobleman.
Pagan – A person who follows ancient polytheistic beliefs.
Christianity – The religion adopted by many Anglo-Saxons and Vikings.
Wergild – Compensation paid for wrongdoing or injury.
Conquest – The act of taking control of land through war.

The Vikings:

Norse – The language and culture of the Vikings.
Valhalla – A Viking paradise for warriors who die in battle.
Berserker – A fierce Viking warrior who fought without fear.
Skald – A Viking poet or storyteller.
Drakkar – A type of long Viking warship.
Chieftain – A leader of a Viking tribe.
Seafarer – A person who travels by sea.
Freeman – A person who was not a slave in Viking society.
Thing – A Viking assembly where decisions were made.
Trade – The exchange of goods and services.
Exploration – Traveling to discover new lands.
Thor – A Norse god associated with thunder.
Saga Stone – A carved stone that tells a story.
Village – To rob violently during raids.
Runestone – Stones with inscriptions commemorating important events.

Victorians (Local Study):

Industrial – Relating to factories and mass production.
Factory – A building where goods are made in large quantities.
Reform – Changes made to improve society.
Chimney Sweep – A person, often a child, who cleaned chimneys.

Workhouse – A place where poor people were housed and worked.
Railway – Tracks for trains to travel on.
Invention – A new device or method.
Queen Victoria – The British queen who ruled from 1837 to 1901.
Slums – Poor, overcrowded urban areas.
Empire – A group of countries ruled by one government.
Steam Engine – A machine powered by steam, used in factories and trains.
Child Labour – Children working in dangerous jobs.
Industrial Revolution – A period of major technological changes.
Telegraph – A system for sending messages using electrical signals.
Education Act – A law that made education compulsory for children.