



Dear Brother,

I am writing tell you of the terrible situation here at Lindisfarne. Early this morning, our sacred monastery was attacked by Norse men, who were searching for gold and other precious items. Now, our building has been left destroyed and cherished items have been taken, including our plates, crosses and manuscripts!

It began when I was woken by cries from the chambers. I swiftly climbed out of bed, and I rushed down stairs towards the screams. Nervously, I opened the chapel doors to witness Norse men trashing our holy alter and shattering the ornate carvings of our Lord. Soon, I was joined by my fellow brothers, who tried to stave off the attackers. But the Norse men turned on my brothers, plunging their swords into their hearts. I was quivering in the corner, worried that I would be next.

Now, we have begun to clean up. So far, we know we have lost four bibles, countless goblets, a number of plates and seven crosses! Our beautiful tapestries have been ripped from the walls, and our stained glass window has been completely smashed with rocks and stones.

I am still struggling to believe what has happened. I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw those terrifying warriors rampaging through the corridors with all of our precious items in their hands. I've heard from others in Britain that these pests have been raiding villages too!

I am sending this letter as a warning, brother, that they may come to you very soon. Be alert, ensure that all of your precious items are locked away, and protect yourself too. There is no point in fighting with them – they are just too powerful!

I wish you a safe and happy few months. I will write again soon!

Yours sincerely

Brother John



Questions

DIFFICULTY:  

1. According to the text, where did the incident take place?

2. According to the text, what were the Norse invaders looking for?

3. Look at paragraph 2.

What two incidents did John witness when he opened the chapel doors?

1.

2.

4. What did John do when the Norse men turned on her brothers?

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| ran away | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| hid | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| shouted for help | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| fought back | <input type="checkbox"/> |

5. Look at paragraph 3. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'destroyed'.

Questions

DIFFICULTY:  

6. 'I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw those terrifying warriors rampaging through the corridors with all of our precious items in their hands'.

What does the word 'rampaging' mean in this sentence? Tick one.

- | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| walking | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| tiptoeing | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| skipping | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| charging | <input type="checkbox"/> |

7. Look at paragraph 4. What other crime have the Norse men committed?

8. Look at the final paragraph. What three pieces of advice does John give to his brothers?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Answers

DIFFICULTY:  

1. According to the text, where did the incident take place?

Lindisfarne

2. According to the text, what were the Norse invaders looking for?

Gold and other precious items

3. Look at paragraph 2.

What two incidents did John witness when he opened the chapel doors?

1. Norse men trashing the holy alter.

2. Norse men shattering the ornate carvings of the Lord.

4. What did John do when the Norse men turned on her brothers?

ran away ☐

hid ☒

shouted for help ☐

fought back ☐

5. Look at paragraph 3. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'destroyed'.

smashed

Answers

DIFFICULTY:  

6. 'I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw those terrifying warriors rampaging through the corridors with all of our precious items in their hands'.

What does the word 'rampaging' mean in this sentence? Tick one.

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| charging | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

7. Look at paragraph 4. What other crime have the Norse men committed?

Raiding villages

8. Look at the final paragraph. What three pieces of advice does John give to his brothers?

1. Be alert
2. Lock away precious items
3. Protect yourself

Also accept: hide/do not fight

