

Skills Practice - Reading

1 Read about the people. Match the pictures to the texts.

A.



B.



THE ROMANS

The Romans had a very large empire from 44BC to 395AD. They came from Italy and they lived in different places in Europe. They arrived in Britain in 43AD. They built cities and roads, and taught people to speak Latin. They built large cities with big houses and public bath houses. They built straight roads so the army could march quickly from one place to another. The rich Romans lived and ate very well, but the poor Romans did not. They worked very hard. The Romans gave the English language Latin words like *medium* and *formula*.

THE VIKINGS

The Vikings came from Scandinavia: Sweden, Norway and Denmark. They invaded Britain and other countries in the north west of Europe from the eighth to the tenth centuries. They were very fierce people and fought bravely. Many of them stole food and treasure from the local people. Some Vikings were more peaceful. They sold furs and jewellery so they could buy other things. They needed their boats to travel around. Viking longships were thirty metres long, and were scary because they were full of fierce Vikings! The names for the days of the week in English come from the Viking words.

2 Complete the chart.

	Romans	Vikings
Where did they come from?	<i>Italy</i>	<i>Sweden, Norway and Denmark</i>
When did they come to Britain?		
What did they do in Britain?		
What words did they give to English?		

New words

empire march
fierce organised
fur peaceful invade
smell (n) jewellery
treasure Latin

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