

Northern Europe

All questions require at least
THREE sentences on own paper.

PLACES & TERMS

Nordic countries Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden

parliament a representative lawmaking body, whose members are elected or appointed

Silicon Glen a section of Scotland, between Glasgow and Edinburgh, that has many high-tech companies

euro a common European currency proposed by the European Union

A History of Seafaring Conquerors

Who were the Vikings?

Northern Europe includes the United Kingdom and Ireland. It also includes the Nordic countries of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

Celts lived in ancient Great Britain. Romans conquered southern Britain by about A.D. 80. In the 400s, Germanic tribes invaded. They drove out the Romans and pushed the Celts north and west.

Beginning about 795, many *seafaring* warriors raided Europe. They were from Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. These Norsemen, or Vikings, conquered parts of Britain. They settled in Normandy, a part of France named for them. They also went many other places.

In 1066, William the Conqueror of Normandy invaded England and began to rule it. The Normans spoke French. Over time, English acquired many French words.

Denmark, Sweden, and Norway each became a

kingdom in the 900s. Sweden was powerful in the 1600s but never created an empire.

Great Britain did build an empire. First, England won control of Wales, Ireland, and Scotland. In 1801, the nation became known as the United Kingdom.

Britain's island location helped protect it. After 1066, no enemy successfully invaded Britain. Britain built a navy and developed trade. By the 1800s, Britain had colonies around the world.

1. What groups affected the development of Britain?

Answer in at least **THREE SENTENCES** on own paper.

Moving into the Modern Age

How did representative government develop?

Britain's government has a monarch and a parliament. A parliament is a *representative* lawmaking body. Its members are elected or

appointed. In 1215, English nobles forced the king to sign the Magna Carta. This document inspired many of today's political ideas. Over time, English rulers lost power to Parliament. The government grew more representative.

The Nordic countries also have representative governments. Iceland has the oldest parliament in the world. It has been meeting since 930.

Britain had iron ore and coal. This helped it to be the first nation to industrialize. The growth of industry led Britain to build an empire. Colonies could supply raw materials and buy finished goods. In the 1800s, the industrial revolution spread to other nations. Sweden developed the most industry of the Nordic countries.

After World War II, nearly all of Britain's colonies gained independence. The British have problems in Northern Ireland. Conflicts between Protestants and Catholics and anti-British violence occur there.

2. What three things characterized Britain as it moved toward modern times?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.

Economics: Diversity and Change

Where are technology industries growing?

Sweden and the United Kingdom have strong motor vehicle and *aerospace* industries. Both produce paper products, food products, and pharmaceuticals.

Technology is changing the economy. Ireland now makes computer software and hardware. A section of Scotland is called **Silicon Glen** because of its high-tech companies.

Most nations of the region joined the European Union (EU). EU members have mixed feelings about using the euro. The euro is a common currency to be used by EU members.

3. What are the strengths of Northern Europe's economy?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.

Cultural Similarities and Modern Art

How is the United Kingdom changing?

The Nordic nations have populations that consist mostly of one ethnic group. The United Kingdom has grown more diverse in recent years.

Most people in Northern Europe speak a Germanic language. Of non-Germanic languages, Sami is spoken only in the far north. Celtic languages survive only on the edges of the British Isles.

The Reformation swept through the region. Several Protestant churches took root. Only Ireland is mainly Catholic.

The Nordic countries helped to influence modern culture. Important artists were Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen and Swedish director Ingmar Bergman. Great Britain and Ireland also contributed to world literature. Many people consider William Shakespeare the greatest playwright of all time.

4. What cultural similarities exist throughout the region?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.

Life in Northern Europe

How are women treated in Northern Europe?

In Northern Europe, most people live in cities. The standard of living is high. Northern European women have made great political progress.

The governments of Northern Europe offer many welfare services to their people. For example, the Nordic countries and Britain have national health insurance programs. To pay for these programs, the people in these countries pay high taxes.

5. How do Northern European governments treat their citizens?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.