

King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table

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- 1 The Romans ruled Britain between 43AD and 410AD. After this, there were many small kingdoms in Britain with different leaders. During the next century after the Romans, the Anglo-Saxons invaded from Germany and Scandinavia. The Vikings came from Scandinavia and attacked the coast of Britain for 200 years after this. The Normans (originally from the Vikings who invaded France) invaded Britain from France in 1066.

2

Things they have to do	Things they wear/carry	Adjectives to describe a good knight
<i>save a young woman</i> fight for honour, truth and justice support their king quests to kill an enemy or a dragon find something holy or valuable	armour shield sword and sheath spear axe helmet	<i>brave</i> polite chivalrous strong

- 3 a The Holy Grail was the cup which was said to have been used at the Last Supper in Jerusalem, before the prophet Jesus died. 'Searching for the Holy Grail' is now used to mean looking for something extremely important but difficult to find. *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown is an example of a book which also talks about the Holy Grail.
- b Examples of other popular magical stories include the *Harry Potter* series and *The Chronicles of Narnia*.

4 a

Man	Woman	Marriage?	Children?
<i>King Gorlois</i>	<i>Queen Igrayne</i>	yes	<i>3 daughters, including Morgana</i>
King Uther	Queen Igrayne	no	Arthur
King Arthur	Queen Guinevere	yes	not known
Merlin	Nimuë	no	no
Lancelot	Queen Guinevere	no	no
Arthur	Morgana	no	a son, Mordred
Tristram	Iseult the Fair	no	no
King Mark	Iseult the Fair	yes	no
Tristram	Iseult of the White Hands	yes	no
Lancelot	Lady Blanchefleur	no	a son, Galahad
Percivale	Blanchefleur	yes	a son, Lohengrin

- b *Student's own answers*

5 *Student's own answers. Student's should mention:*

In the first picture, Arthur has just pulled the sword from the stone and therefore won the right to be King of Britain. This is the Sword of Right. It meant Arthur would be crowned King three months later. Merlin would tell him that the sword must be used to do good, fight evil and defend the land.

In the second picture, Arthur has already used the sword (Excalibur, the Sword of Might) to kill Morgana. Bedivere has just thrown the sword into the lake, as Arthur asked him to do, now that the work of the sword is done. Arthur is going to be carried away to a place of rest in the boat.

6 *Student's own answer*

7 *Student's own answers.*

Current/recent examples include the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

8 *Student's own answer.*