

Story starters

Use the following extracts as beginnings for your own stories. Remember to consider plot, character and setting.

Roman soldier

I am sick. Sick of this training, sick of marching. Sick of the rain, sick of the hills. Sick of the practice drills and sick of the cold. And I'm sick with nerves, with worry. I've only been training for two weeks. There are months to go and I don't know if I can make it. I must stop writing now. I can see an order arriving, and I've only rested for five minutes. Surely they won't send us out in this rain again?



Anglo Saxon

Fantastic news! I am to look after the animals. Father has not allowed me to do this previously. I have been sowing the peas and beans and looking after the land. He has said I'm old enough to work with the animals now. He knows I find tending to the plants boring. No more sowing for me!



Viking

The ship is nearing Lindisfarne. Tomorrow is the day we are to attack. The locals will be in for a surprise. They won't know what is happening. There are 200 Vikings on the boat and we are fiercely armed. Many will think we look wild, wilder than anything they have seen in these parts before.