**History of English Language**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3UqzBA1LNbE>

Watch the video and answer the following questions:

1. What is England’s greatest achievement?
2. Where did the first elements of English appear?
3. To what family of languages does English belong?
4. Who were the first people to speak English-like words and when did they arrive in the actual territory of England?
5. Who were the first to invade this territory?
6. What were the native tribes who dwelled the territory after the Roman retreat?
7. What happened to the Celts when the Germanic tribes invaded?
8. Are there any Celtic elements remaining in English?
9. What are the kingdoms that used to comprise former England?
10. What is the name used for the language developed by the Germanic tribes?
11. What was the dramatic change brought to the tribal roots of old English? What other element added up to it?
12. What is the phenomenon that led to present-day English called?
13. What was the great achievement of Christianity in England?
14. Who wrote the first History of English-speaking people?
15. What was the first written poem in English?
16. Who threatened the Latin-based culture of scholarships in England and almost had it extinct in the late 8th century?
17. What were these invaders called and what was the next layer added to English?
18. Who saved English from extinction and how did he succeed in promoting literacy and restoring the English language?
19. What was the threat the English had to face during the 11th century?
20. What was the new layer added to English?

KEY:

1. What is England’s greatest achievement?

England’s greatest achievement is the English language.

1. Where did the first elements of English appear?

The first elements appeared in Friesland, which is now called the Netherlands.

1. To what family of languages does English belong?

            English belongs to the Germanic family of languages.

1. Who were the first people to speak English-like words and when did they arrive in the actual territory of England?

 The first people to speak English-like words were the West Germanic Tribes and they arrived by the end of the sixth century.

1. Who were the first to invade this territory?

The first to invade England were the Romans.

1. What were the native tribes who dwelled the territory after the Roman retreat?

The native tribes were Britons and Celts.

1. What happened to the Celts when the Germanic tribes invaded?

All the Celts were slaughtered, not one survived.

1. Are there any Celtic elements remaining in English?

Only some words survived, like crag, combe, brat, brach, tor, caer and so on.

1. What are the kingdoms that used to comprise former England?

The kingdoms that used to comprise former England were Kent, Sussex, Essex and Wessex, East Anglia, Mercia, Northumbria.

1. What is the name used for the language developed by the Germanic tribes?

The name used for the language developed by the Germanic Tribes is Anglo-Saxon or Old English.

1. What was the dramatic change brought to the tribal roots of old English? What other element added up to it?

The dramatic change started with the revival of Christianity, Latin being the element that added up as the international language of the Christian religion.

1. What is the phenomenon that led to present-day English called?

 The phenomenon that led to present-day English is called Layering of words.

1. What was the great achievement of Christianity in England?

They brought the Latin alphabet to replace the runes, along with the possibility to write books.

1. Who wrote the first History of English-speaking people?

The first book was written by an English monk and scholar called Bead.

1. What was the first written poem in English?

Beowulf

1. Who threatened the Latin-based culture of scholarships in England and almost had it extinct in the late 8th century?

          The Viking threatened and almost destroyed the culture in the 8 th century.

1. What were these invaders called and what was the next layer added to English?

These invaders were called Danes and the new language that was spreading was called Old Norse.

1. Who saved English from extinction and how did he succeed in promoting literacy and restoring the English language?

The monarch called Alfred the Great was the survivor of the English Language.

1. What was the threat the English had to face during the 11th century?

The threat that the English had to face during the 11th century was the Normans.

1. What was the new layer added to English?

The new layer that was added to English consisted of French.