

Nine Facts about Planet Nine

- 10 Even though no one has seen it yet, astronomers believe
20 they have discovered a ninth planet in our solar system.
- 25 **Nine facts about 'Planet Nine':**
- 32 • It is 10 times bigger than Earth.
- 41 • It might be 20 times further away than Neptune!
- 48 • Its orbit is 10,000 to 20,000 years.
- 55 • Its gravity seems to affect objects in
60 space that circle around Neptune.
- 71 • The discovery of a 'new' planet for the first time in
77 150 years could change scientists' understanding
84 of how the solar system was made.
- 89 • UFO enthusiasts have often written
93 about a mythical 'Planet X'.
- 104 • There's only a one in 15,000 chance that it doesn't exist.
- 112 • It is a 'real' planet, which replaces the
116 downgraded 'dwarf planet' Pluto.
- 122 • The race is on to prove
124 its existence!



Quick Questions



1. Which word means the same as 'found'?



2. Find two adjectives that are antonyms of each other.



3. Do you think that the existence of Planet Nine will be proven? Explain why.



4. What effects has Planet Nine had on us and our solar system?

Treasure Hunting

7 In 1873, an archaeologist called Heinrich Schliemann
16 discovered a large collection of gold and other artefacts.
26 He unearthed them in a place where he believed the
36 ancient city of Troy was located. The collection is called
43 Priam's Treasure after a famous king, Priam.

48 **What is in the collection?**

59 There is a shield, a cauldron, a vase, two diadems,
67 rings, buttons, bracelets, goblets, a bottle, gold cups and
69 silver knives.

77 **When would it have been made and used?**

79 2600-2300 BC

83 **Where was it found?**

88 It was found in Hissarlik,
93 which is believed to be
95 Ancient Troy.

99 There is still some
102 controversy with many
105 archaeologists claiming that
110 this treasure does nothing to
115 prove the existence of Troy.



Quick Questions



1. Where was the treasure found?



2. Which two words mean the same as 'found'?



3. How does the layout help the reader?



4. Do you think this treasure proves the existence of Troy? Why?

The Magic Hammer

10 When the Vikings first came to Britain they were Pagans,
20 worshipping Norse gods. The king of the gods was Odin,
29 who had a son, Thor, the God of Thunder.
39 Thor's magic hammer, which could kill an army or bring
48 peace to the world, was missing; the unintelligent frost
59 giant, Thrym, had stolen it! Loki, the giant and god of
69 Mischief, was sent to find Thrym to retrieve the hammer.
78 However, Thrym laughed and gave Loki an ultimatum: "I
90 will return the hammer if I am given Freya, the Goddess of
102 Love, to be my wife." Loki had a mischievous plan - rather
114 than send poor Freya, Thor put on a dress and went to
117 reclaim his hammer.



Quick Questions



1. Who did the Vikings worship originally?



2. Which two words mean the same as 'get back'?



3. Why do you think that Thrym stole the magic hammer?



4. Do you think that Thor managed to recover his hammer? Why do you think this?

Danegeld by Rudyard Kipling

9 Fierce and brutal Vikings sailed to Britain in longboats,
17 'Let's go Viking!' they yelled so they did,
26 With axes high and a glint in their eyes,
32 Many Britons just ran and hid!

40 When a new wave of Viking raids started,
46 Poor King Ethelred struggled to cope,
55 So Danegeld he paid to try and stop raids,
62 But Vikings came back in their boats.

68 The Danegeld tax couldn't contain them,
74 And Ethelred got called 'the un-ready',
81 "It's not funny, they're after more money!"
85 I'm fleeing abroad instead!"

92 In the end some Vikings liked Britain,
97 They enjoyed the British way,
106 They sent for their wives and started new lives,
111 Vikings were here to stay!



Quick Questions



1. How did Vikings travel to Britain?



2. Which word means the same as 'leaving a place of danger'?



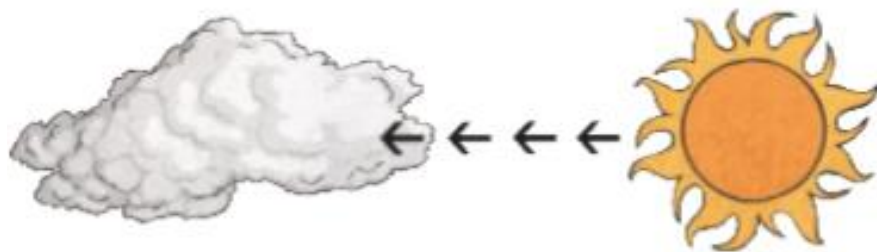
3. Why do you think 'many Britons just ran and hid'?



4. How did some of the Vikings change?

The Water Cycle

10 More than three quarters of the Earth's surface is water.
20 Heat from the Sun causes water to evaporate from seas,
28 lakes, rivers and streams. Water also evaporates from
39 puddles and ponds. It doesn't even need to be hot for
50 this to happen! When the water has evaporated, it is in
61 the form of water vapour, which rises in the air, clumps
70 together and cools down (condenses) to form clouds. As
78 more water vapour condenses, more water droplets are
87 formed in the clouds. Eventually, the water droplets are
99 large and heavy enough to fall back to the surface of the
107 Earth as precipitation (rain, sleet, hail or snow).



Quick Questions



1. Find and copy two words that mean the same as 'ground'



2. In which four ways can precipitation fall?



3. Summarise the main points of this text in 20 words or less.



4. List all of the places where water is found on Earth.
