**Anglo-Saxons, Scots and Viking Invasion**

The lesson covers the history of Anglo-Saxons, Scots in Britain from around 450 to 850 AD, focusing on their cultural, political, and religious developments.

1. **Anglo-Saxon Settlement and Culture**:
   * The Anglo-Saxon tribes (Saxons, Angles, and Jutes) migrated to Britain due to its wealth and climate, settling in different regions: the Jutes in Kent, the Angles in the east and Midlands, and the Saxons in between. These migrations led to the formation of England, named after the Angles.
   * The Anglo-Saxons established kingdoms (e.g., Kent, Essex, Wessex, Northumbria) by the 6th and 7th centuries. Key figures like King Offa of Mercia later unified these kingdoms under a single monarchy.
   * Saxon administration included the King’s Council (Witan) and the creation of shires/counties, with sheriffs overseeing local governance.
2. **Agriculture and Trade**:
   * Anglo-Saxon farming practices included crop rotation with fields for spring and autumn crops and one resting. Their economy was based on wool, cheese, hunting dogs, pottery, and metal goods, while importing items like wine, fish, and jewelry.
3. **Christianity and Monasticism**:
   * Christianity spread to Britain starting in the 2nd century, with a major push in the 6th century by missionaries like St. Patrick and St. Columba. By 680, most of Britain was Christian.
   * The Synod of Whitby (664) unified the English Church under Roman practices. Monasteries became centers of learning, and the power of the church influenced class divisions, as literacy grew among clergy and land ownership became more documented.
4. **Viking Invasion**:
   * Vikings, originally sea raiders from Scandinavia, began raiding Britain in the late 8th century, attacking monasteries like Lindisfarne and Iona. By the 860s, they settled in parts of Britain, including the Danelaw (territories under Viking control).
   * King Alfred of Wessex famously resisted the Vikings, reclaiming London and fortifying it. The Vikings gradually adopted Christianity and influenced the English language, contributing words like "egg," "steak," and "law."
   * By the 10th century, Viking raids resumed, and after a series of Viking kings, including King Cnut, England experienced a period of relative peace before the Norman Conquest in 1066.
5. **End of the Anglo-Saxon Era**:
   * In 1066, the Anglo-Saxon era ended with the Norman Conquest, as William of Normandy defeated King Harold at the Battle of Hastings, marking the start of Norman rule in England.

This period laid the foundations for English culture, law, and governance, including the English language, place names, and administrative structures.