

VIKING MIGRATION AND THE *THING*

(text to go with the Vikings: Drama Exemplar
on www.primaryhistory.org)

The King's messenger arrives: 1 March 890 AD

You live in Sunn Fjord on the west coast of Norway.

A messenger has just arrived from the King of Northern Norway, Harald Finehair.

The jarl (chieftain) calls a meeting of its people – the *Thing*.
The jarl speaks:

'Harald Finehair has ordered me to go to his court with all fighting men to serve in his army. Harald says that we must stop our raids on trading ships. The King also says that from now on he will rule our community. One of the King's jarls says that he owns our land.'

What will you, the people, decide to do?

1 Surrender?

2 Fight?

3 Flee abroad with your animals, tools, and household goods? You can take all the village's ten families with you.

Nuffield Primary History project

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