

## THEME 5: 'THE ROMAN CONQUEST WAS A GOOD THING

Sellar & Yeatman, 1066 & All That

### AIM

The aim of this session is to use the information and resources gathered during the other teaching sessions to debate the following motion from the point of view of seven fictional, contemporary inhabitants from First Century northern Britain

*'The Roman Conquest was ... a Good Thing, since the Britons were only natives at that time.'*

### SUGGESTED RESOURCES

Character profiles, one set per group\*

Props if wished

A copy of 1066 & All That

### INTRODUCTION

This activity should take place at the end of the learning period as it builds on knowledge previously gained. Depending on the group, you might want to read the original chapter from 1066, or extracts from it.

### MAIN ACTIVITY

- Divide the class into small groups and give each group a set of the character sheets.
- Each group chooses a character, making sure that if there are fewer than seven in the group both sides of the debate are represented.
- Allow time for each person to read through their sheet and think about their character. Depending on time, resources etc they may want to improvise props, etc to help them get in role.
- Establish the rules of debate
  - ♦ Each person may speak for only one minute
  - ♦ The rest of the group must listen without interruption
  - ♦ All opinions should be considered.
- Each person in turn argues their position according to the viewpoint of their character whilst the rest of the group listens.
- When each person has made their case then the group takes a vote on the motion.

### PLENARY/ONGOING LINKS ETC

- Each group elects a spokesperson to relay their decision to the class as a whole outlining the key reasons behind their decision, again limiting them to one minute each.
- Take a class vote on the motion and record the outcome.