

# Super English



Level 7 - Unit 9

Lesson 1

The United  
Kingdom



# The Celtic Beginning

Discuss the words in bold and answer the questions.

Before the Romans, Britain wasn't "British." It was home to Celtic **tribes** who painted their bodies blue, built hill forts, and **worshipped** nature spirits. Their world was full of myth, music, and **ritual**, but largely cut off from the outside world.

Traders from Europe occasionally brought shiny goods or strange stories, but the Celts remained proudly independent. They didn't realize that **isolation** wouldn't last forever. Change was already sailing their way—powerful armies, new beliefs, and **foreign tongues** that would transform the island's identity forever.

1. What were the Celts unaware of?
2. What do you think life was like for people in small, tribal communities?
3. Do you think isolation helps or hurts a culture's development?



# Rome Arrives (and Stays)

Discuss the words in bold and answer the questions.

1. Why wasn't Rome able to fully conquer Britain?
2. How do you think Roman roads and laws changed everyday life?
3. Why do you think some people resisted Roman rule?



In 43 CE, Roman legions invaded Britain with **discipline** and **ambition**. They built roads, baths, and cities that still shape modern towns today. Latin replaced local **dialects**, and Roman laws brought structure to daily life. But Britain was never fully **conquered**—tribes in the north fought back fiercely. After nearly four hundred years, the Romans suddenly withdrew, leaving confusion behind. Their roads and ruins remained, but their order vanished overnight. The people who once relied on Roman stability were forced to rebuild their world **from scratch**.

# Idioms

Match the idioms to their meanings.

- Hold your ground
- Stand the test of time
- Rule of thumb
- Come full circle
- Carry the torch
- Bend but not break

1. To continue an idea, belief, or tradition started by someone else.
2. To remain strong or important even after many years.
3. To stay firm and not give up when facing pressure or opposition.
4. To face challenges but stay strong without giving up completely.
5. A general guideline based on experience, not a strict rule.
6. To return to a situation that's similar to where you started.

# Norman Takeover

Discuss the words in bold and answer the questions.

In 1066, William of Normandy arrived with an army and ambition. He **defeated** King Harold at Hastings and claimed England as his own. The Normans brought castles, cathedrals, and French words that slipped into English. Suddenly, power had a new language—“cow” was for farmers, but “beef” for nobles. **Feudal rule** transformed villages into estates and connected England to a wider European world. The island that had once resisted invaders now carried their culture in its **architecture**, language, and laws for centuries to come.



1. What language did the Normans bring to England?
2. What would it feel like to have your country suddenly ruled by foreigners?
3. Why do you think castles were so important to the Normans?

# Vocabulary

Match the vocabulary words to their definitions.

- ambition
- discipline
- resilience
- exploit
- collage
- crumble

1. A mix of many different parts combined to make one picture or idea.
2. To take unfair advantage of someone or something for your own benefit.
3. The ability to control yourself and follow rules or routines.
4. To break apart or fall down into small pieces.
5. The ability to recover quickly from difficulties or challenges.
6. A strong desire to reach a goal or achieve success.

# Dialogue 1: History Class Drama



Read the dialogue and answer the question.

**Liam:** I swear, every chapter in our history book starts with “And then someone invaded.”

**Ava:** Right? It’s like, did anyone ever just stay home?

**Liam:** Apparently not. Britain was basically the world’s favorite target.

**Ava:** Until it turned around and built an empire. Talk about a plot twist.

**Liam:** Classic overachiever move.

**Ava:** Guess they took “if you can’t beat them, join them” to the next level.

**Question:** Do you think mistakes actually help us learn more than success?

# Dialogue 2: Language Confusion



Read the dialogue and answer the question.

**Sasha:** So “cow” comes from Old English, and “beef” comes from French?

**Noah:** Yeah, because farmers raised the cows, but nobles ate the beef.

**Sasha:** That’s wild—English is basically a souvenir shop from every invasion.

**Noah:** True. It’s like a language built from leftovers.

**Sasha:** At least it explains why spelling makes zero sense.

**Noah:** Yep. History made English chaotic on purpose.

**Question:** How does learning about a language’s history help you understand it better?

# Strange But True: The Bayeux Tapestry

Read the text and answer the question.

A thousand-year-old comic strip! The Bayeux Tapestry tells the story of the Norman invasion of 1066 in 70 meters of embroidered fabric. It shows knights, ships, and even a comet in the sky. Historians call it one of the most detailed records of medieval life—but it was made by the victors, so it's definitely biased.

**Discussion Challenge:** How might history look different if it were told by the losing side?



# See you next time!

