

#### Runes

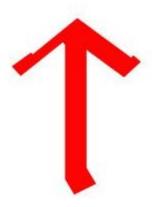
The Anglo-Saxons and Vikings used a system of writing known as **runes** to write simple messages.

Runes are made up of straight lines. This made it easier to carve them into stone, wood or bone.

The alphabet they used had between 24 and 33 letters.

The runes were not just used as letters. They could be used to represent things or ideas.

Some people believe that runes had magical powers and would protect them in battle.



This symbol is used for the letter t but can also mean a spear.

The spear was the symbol for the way god Tiw.

The rune can mean battle, heroism or victory.

Warriors would wear this symbol and it might be carved on weapons, helmets or shields.



#### Task 1.

Ask a warrior how the god Tiw protects him.

#### Task 2.

Write you own or a friend's name in runes (use the rune guide to help you with this task).

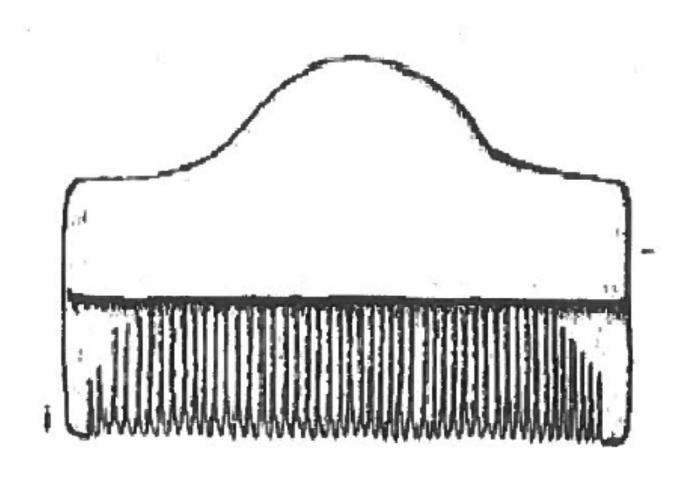
#### Task 3.

Have you seen the knife with the magic runes on the blade? What to the runes mean?



Task 4.

Write your own secret message in runes on the comb.





### **The Rune Guide**

