

Name _____ Date _____

"The Seafarer," translated by Burton Raffel
"The Wanderer," translated by Charles Kennedy
"The Wife's Lament," translated by Ann Stanford

Enrichment: Social Studies

These poems are about exiles—persons who for one reason or another find themselves far from home. During Britain's Anglo-Saxon period, many people were exiles due to various migrations into and out of the British Isles.

DIRECTIONS: Read the following paragraph about some of these fifth-century migrations. Label and draw lines on the map to illustrate these migrations.

At the start of the fifth century, England was under Roman rule. In 410, the Romans began leaving England, having been called back to Rome to defend it. This left an opportunity for new groups of people to come and take the land. Beginning in 449, a wave of people came to the British Isles seeking new lands. The three main groups were the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes. The Angles came from southern Denmark, eventually settling in the eastern half of England. The Saxons came from northern Germany and settled in the southern part of England. This part of England is now the counties of Essex, Sussex, and Wessex. The Jutes probably came from northern Denmark and northern Germany, near the mouth of the Rhine River. They settled in an area just south of London, in what is now called Kent, and on the Isle of Wight. Many natives of these lands, the Celtic Britons, were forced to move west and north. Eventually many of them settled in Wales.

