

	History	Famous names	Texts	
Germanic invasion	from 449 Germanic invasion; Jutes seize Kent			Heroic
	c. 518 British victory (Arthur?) against Saxons at Mt Badon	?-537? (King) Arthur; is killed in battle?		
	after 530 Essex, Middlesex established	c. 520-597 St Columba; 540-604 Gregory (the Great; Pope since 590)		
	after 550 Anglian kingdoms: Mercia, Northumbria, East Anglia		<i>oral</i>	
	c. 563 St Columba founds Iona		<i>Anglo-Saxon</i>	
	560-616 supremacy of Kent		<i>poetry</i>	
	597 St Augustine arrives in Kent and founds the Christian church in Southern England	?-604/5 St Augustine (first archbishop of Canterbury)		
Conversion	597- c. 681 Conversion	c. 590-651 St Aidan (Irish missionary; first bishop of Lindisfarne)		Heroic
	617-658 supremacy of Northumbria			
	c. 625 Sutton Hoo Burial (Rædwald)	c. 628-690 Benedict Biscop (“bringer of books”)	c. 625 <i>Widsith</i>	
	635 St. Aidan founds Lindisfarne	c. 639-709 Aldhelm (first abbot of Malmesbury; first Anglo-Saxon scholar whose (Latin) texts survive)	635 <i>The Fight at Finnsburg (The Finnsburg Fragment)</i>	
	657 King Oswiu of Northumbria founds the double monastery of Whitby (Streaneshalch)		c. 657 <i>Deor</i>	

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Viking invasion/ King Alfred	664 Synod of Whitby	c. 670 Cædmon (first Old English poet known by name)	c. 664 Cædmon: <i>Hymn</i>
	674-681 Benedict founds Wearmouth/ Jarrow	673-735 The Venerable Bede (foremost scholar)	c. 680 earliest date for <i>Beowulf</i> 689 <i>Lindisfarne Gospels</i> 688/9 <i>Laws</i> (Ine King of Wessex) before 700 <i>Genesis A</i>
	from 700 flourishing of Northumbria (Wearmouth, Jarrow, York, Lindisfarne)		after 700 <i>The Dream of the Rood</i> , <i>Exeter Book of Riddles</i>
	after 716 supremacy of Wessex (re-established in 802)	735-804 Alcuin (Archbishop of York 776-782; head of Carolingian Renaissance after 782)	720-740 <i>Exodus</i> , <i>Guthlac A</i> 731 Bede: <i>Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum</i>
	789-897 Viking invasions		780-795 <i>Exeter Book Elegies: The Wanderer, The Seafarer, The Ruin</i>
	793 Vikings sack Lindisfarne		
	794 Vikings sack Jarrow		c. 796 Nennius (?-810): <i>Historia Britonum</i>
	c. 800 Viking raids in England continue; Vikings plunder Iona	849-899 Alfred (later King Alfred the Great; royal Old English writer)	before 800 <i>Book of Kells</i> , <i>Guthlac A (A?)</i> c. 800 Cynewulf (the only poet to sign his works): <i>Fates of the Apostles</i> , <i>Christ II</i> , <i>Juliana</i> , <i>Elene</i> 825-855 <i>Andreas</i> , <i>Guthlac B</i> , <i>The Phoenix</i>
	865 Vikings in East Anglia		
	867 Battle of York; Northumbria falls		
870 Vikings overrun East Anglia	871 Alfred becomes King of Wessex	871-899 <i>The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle</i> ; Old English translations of: Bede's <i>Historia</i> , Orosius' <i>Universal History</i> , Gregory's <i>Dialogues</i> + <i>Pastoral Care</i> , Boethius' <i>Consolation</i> , Augustine's <i>Soliloquies</i>	

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Benedictine Revival	874-877 Yorkshire, East Mercia, East Anglia are in Viking hands			Clerical
	878 Treaty of Wedmore between Guthrum and Alfred (establishment of the Danelaw)			
	899-975 creation of an English kingdom (expansion of West-Saxon power)		c. 910 <i>Genesis B</i> (translated from Old Saxon)	
	c. 919 Welsh principedoms, kingdoms of Scotland, Strathclyde, York acknowledge Edward as overlord	c. 909-988 St Dunstan (Archbishop of Canterbury since 960; leader of the Benedictine Revival)	c. 920 <i>Judith</i>	
	937 Battle of Brunanburgh		937 <i>The Battle of Brunanburgh</i>	
	c. 950 Benedictine Revival (Cluny, Fleury; King Edgar) to stop monastic decay: Dunstan (Canterbury), Æthelwold (Winchester), Oswald (York)	c. 955-1025 Ælfric (most significant Old English prose writer)		
	954 extinction of Viking kingdom of York		c. 980 compilation of the <i>Vercelli Book</i> (<i>Andreas, The Dream of the Rood, Elene</i>) and the <i>Exeter Book</i> (<i>Elegies, The Wife's Lament, The Husband's Message, Widsith, the Phoenix, Deor</i>); <i>Beowulf Manuscript</i>	
	991 Battle of Maldon		990-998 Aelfric: <i>Catholic Homilies, Grammar</i> and its sequel <i>Colloquy, Lives of Saints</i> 991 <i>The Battle of Maldon</i> before 1000 the <i>Junius Book</i> ("Cædmonian School"; <i>Genesis A/B, Exodus, Daniel, Christ and Satan</i>) is written and illuminated	

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Norman influence	1002 Æthelred orders the massacre of all Vikings in England	?-1023 Wulfstan (Archbishop of York since 1002; the last Old English writer)	c. 1010 <i>Apollonius of Tyre</i> 1014 Wulfstan: <i>Sermo Lupi ad Anglos</i>
	after 1066 (Battle of Hastings): start of feudalization, centralization and “Normanization” of England	1044 Robert de Jumièges , a Norman, becomes Bishop of London, in 1051 Archbishop of Canterbury	c. 1070 The Bayeux Tapestry
	1086 Domesday survey		c. 1136 Geoffrey of Monmouth (c. 1100-1155): <i>Historia Regum Britanniae</i>
	1154 work on the <i>Anglo-Saxon Chronicle</i> (Peterborough manuscript) is abandoned		1155 Wace (c. 1110-1174): <i>Roman de Brut</i> (Anglo-Norman)
	1167 Oxford University is founded		c. 1190 Layamon: <i>Brut</i> (Middle English)
	c. 1170 Thomas à Becket (Archbishop of Canterbury since 1162) is killed		c. 1200 Orm: <i>Ormulum</i> ; <i>Ancrene Riwe</i> (also called <i>Ancrene Wisse</i>); <i>The Owl and the Nightingale</i>
Anti-French feelings	1204 loss of Normandy		
	1209 Cambridge University is founded		
	1214 Battle of Bouvines: loss of Maine, Anjou, Brittany		

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Revival of English	1258 Provisions of Oxford: barons weaken royal power		before 1272 <i>Havelok the Dane</i>	Courtly
	1339-1453 Hundred Years' War	c. 1330-1384 John Wycliffe (church critic and Bible translator) c. 1330-1393 William Langland (important author of alliterative verse)		
	c. 1350 revival of Old English alliterative verse			
	1362 Statute of Pleading: English as official language of the courts and Parliament; Edward III addresses Parliament in English before 1385 English as language of instruction in schools	c. 1343-1400 Geoffrey Chaucer ("father of English literature")	c. 1360 William Langland's <i>Piers Plowman</i> after 1365 alliterative <i>Morte Arthure</i> c. 1380 Pearl Poet: <i>Pearl, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Patience</i>	
	after 1375 Chester and York Cycles of Mystery Plays		c. 1369-1387 Chaucer's <i>Troilus and Cresseide, The Canterbury Tales</i>	
	1378-1417 Schism of the Church		1382/8 Wycliffe's translation of the Bible into English	
	1419/20 Toweley Cycle of Mystery Plays	c. 1416-1471 Thomas Malory (first English prose account of King Arthur's deeds)	1420/1 John Lydgate's <i>Troy Book, The Siege of Thebes</i>	
	1476/7 Caxton establishes the first printing press in England in Westminster	1422-1492 William Caxton (first English printer of books)	c. 1469 Malory's <i>Morte Darthur</i> (printed by Caxton in 1485) c. 1460/80 Morality Plays <i>Mankind, Everyman</i>	