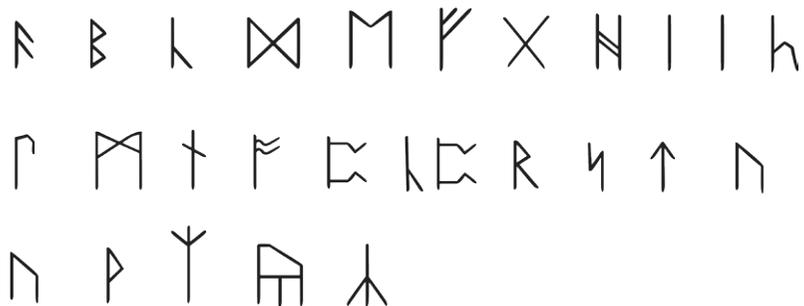


Really Rare Runes

8 Before the Anglo-Saxons became Christians and began to
19 use the Latin alphabet that we still use today, they wrote
26 in something called the futhorc alphabet – commonly
29 known as runes.

40 The word rune means a secret or a mystic sentence. There
50 were a total of thirty-three symbols made out of straight
59 lines, which were carved into special items and stone
66 monuments to give important information. Runes had
74 religious meaning and were used to write spells.

84 Each rune had its own name and unique meaning, such
95 as the rune 'lagu' meant 'lake' and 'is' meant 'ice'. Runes
106 were no longer used by the year 1000 and were banned
117 by King Canute the Great. So far, less than 200 artefacts
124 carved with runes have ever been found.



Quick Questions



1. What do you think the word 'monument' means?



2. Why might runes only have been made out of straight lines, rather than curved lines?



3. Summarise the key points of this text in 20 words or less.



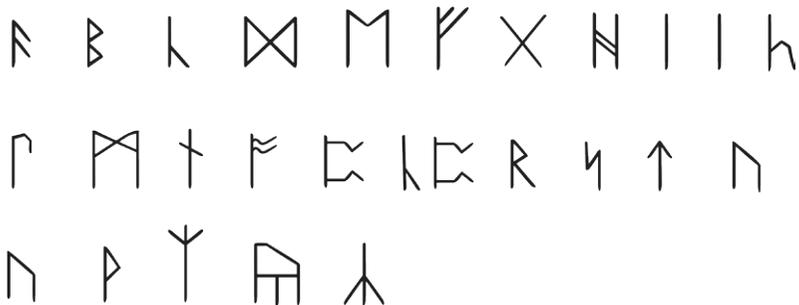
4. How do the meanings of the runes compare to their name?

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Answers



1. What do you think the word 'monument' means?
Accept any reasonable definition which fits with the meaning of the sentence, e.g. statue, gravestone, building or structure.



2. Why might runes only have been made out of straight lines, rather than curved lines?
Accept any reasonable answer regarding the ease of carving, to make them clearer or the lack of tools to carve curved symbols.



3. Summarise the key points of this text in 20 words or less.
Accept any reasonable summary which includes the main point that runes were ancient symbols with meanings and is 20 words or less in length.



4. How do the meanings of the runes compare to their name?
Accept any answer which states that the meaning and the way you say the rune's name are very similar / contain many of the same letters.