The Migration Period – A Historical Version of a Topical Issue.
Die Völkerwanderung nachvollziehen und Gegenwartsbezüge herstellen (Klasse 6/7)

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Should I stay or should I go? – This has always been a very difficult question.

Fast täglich erreichen uns derzeit Nachrichten über Flüchtlinge, die ihre Heimatländer verlassen haben und in Europa eine bessere Zukunft suchen. Doch solche Einwanderungswellen sind kein neues Phänomen, sondern fester Bestandteil der europäischen Geschichte.

Doch welche Gründe hatten diese Völker, ihre alte Heimat zu verlassen? Und wo wurden sie schließlich sesshaft? In dieser Unterrichtseinheit setzen sich die Schülerinnen und Schüler mittels kooperativer Lernmethoden mit diesen Fragen auseinander. Sie beschäftigen sich anhand eines Gruppenpuzzles mit den Migrationsrouten germanischer Stämme. Abschließend versetzen sich die Lernenden im Rahmen eines Rollenspiels in die Lage zweier Germanen, die vor der wichtigen Entscheidung stehen, ob ihr Stamm seine Heimat verlassen soll. Hierbei reflektieren und bewerten sie die Lerninhalte und stellen Gegenwartsbezüge her.

Klassenstufe: 6/7

Dauer: 5 Stunden und Test

Bereich: Spätantike, frühes Mittelalter, Migrationsgeschichte

Kompetenzen:
– die Migrationsrouten germanischer Völker in Europa kennen
– die Gründe für die Völkerwanderung nennen
– die Schwierigkeiten während der Völkerwanderung nennen
– die Gründe für die Völkerwanderung reflektieren und beurteilen
– Bezüge zur Situation im heutigen Europa herstellen

Materialübersicht

Ab: Arbeitsblatt – **Bi:** Bildimpuls – **Fo:** Folie – **LEK:** Lernerfolgskontrolle – **Tx:** Text – **Wo:** Wortschatz

M 4   Which tribe moved where? – A map of Europe

Helpful words and phrases

- **This map shows …**
- **In the map you can see …**
- **The arrows show …**   (**arrow:** Pfeil)
- **The key says/shows …**   (**key:** Legende)
- **The tribe moved from … to …** (**tribe:** Volksstamm)
- **route:** Strecke, Route
- **area:** Gebiet, Gegend
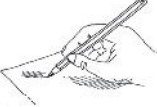
Tasks

1. Describe the map. Use the key and the phrases below as a help.
2. The era shown in the map is called "The Migration Period". Explain why.

M 5   Which tribe moved where? – Task sheet

This task sheet will help you to draw the migration routes of different Germanic tribes on a map.

Part I: Work on your own.
1. Get together with two other class mates. Decide together who will read which text (1–4) about the tribes in the Migration Period. Then read your text carefully on your own.
2. Colour the boxes for your tribes in the key[1] in two different colours.
3. Find the migration routes[2] of your tribes with the help of an atlas.
4. Draw the migration routes of your two tribes on your map.
Time: ____ minutes

Part II: Work in your group.   Remember to talk quietly!
1. Choose a colour for the other tribes in your key.
2. Tell the others about the routes of your two tribes. Listen to the others describing the routes of their tribes and draw the routes of all the other tribes on your map.
Time: ____ minutes

For fast workers: Work on your own or with others.
Answer these two questions. Your atlas and your map will help you.   • Which tribe had the longest migration route?   • How many kilometres was it?

Annotations
1 **key:** Legende, Zeichenerklärung – 2 **route:** Strecke, Route, Weg

M 6　Which tribe moved where? – The migration routes

Find out where some of the tribes moved during the Migration Period.

1　**The Angles:** started in Schleswig-Holstein at the North Sea coast → crossed the North Sea → landed on the east coast of present-day Great Britain → settled down in the eastern part and the centre of the island

The Vandals: started in the south of Poland, between the rivers Oder and Weichsel → moved to the west → crossed the rivers Oder and Elbe → crossed Germany → crossed the river Rhine near Düsseldorf → crossed France from the north-east to the south-west → crossed Spain from the north to Gibraltar → crossed the Mediterranean Sea → settled down in the north of Algeria, Tunisia and Libya, the Balearic Islands, Corsica and Sardinia

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2　**The Burgundians:** started in the north-west of Poland → moved to the south-west → crossed the rivers Oder and Elbe → crossed Germany → crossed the river Rhine near Mainz → settled down in the eastern part of France in the area between the rivers Loire, Seine and Rhône

The Saxons: started in the north-west of Germany and the east of the Netherlands → crossed the North Sea → landed at the east coast of Great Britain → settled down in the south of the island

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3　**The Goths:** started in the south of Sweden → moved to the south-east → crossed the Baltic Sea → crossed Latvia, Lithuania and Belarus → one part of the tribe settled down in the south of the Ukraine at the Black Sea coast → another part of the tribe settled down in Eastern Romania at the Black Sea coast

The Huns: started in Central Asia → moved to the west → crossed the Ural Mountains → crossed the Ukraine → crossed Moldova → settled down in Western Romania and Eastern Hungary

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4　**The Franks:** started in the north of the Netherlands → moved to the south → crossed the river Rhine → parts settled down in the south of the Netherlands, in Belgium and in Luxemburg → parts settled down in Germany to the west of the river Rhine, and parts settled in Germany east of the Rhine, north of the city Mainz (Rhineland-Palatinate and Hesse)

The Alemanni: started in the east of Germany, east of the river Elbe and in Saxony and Brandenburg → moved to the south-west → crossed the river Elbe → crossed Germany → settled down west of the river Rhine in Eastern France, Northern Switzerland and Western Germany

M 7   During the migration – a possible situation

Helpful words

to move away:	wegziehen, umziehen
carriage:	Karren, Wagen
trek:	langer, anstrengender Marsch
ox:	Ochse
tiring:	anstrengend, ermüdend

M 11   The "thing" – a possible situation
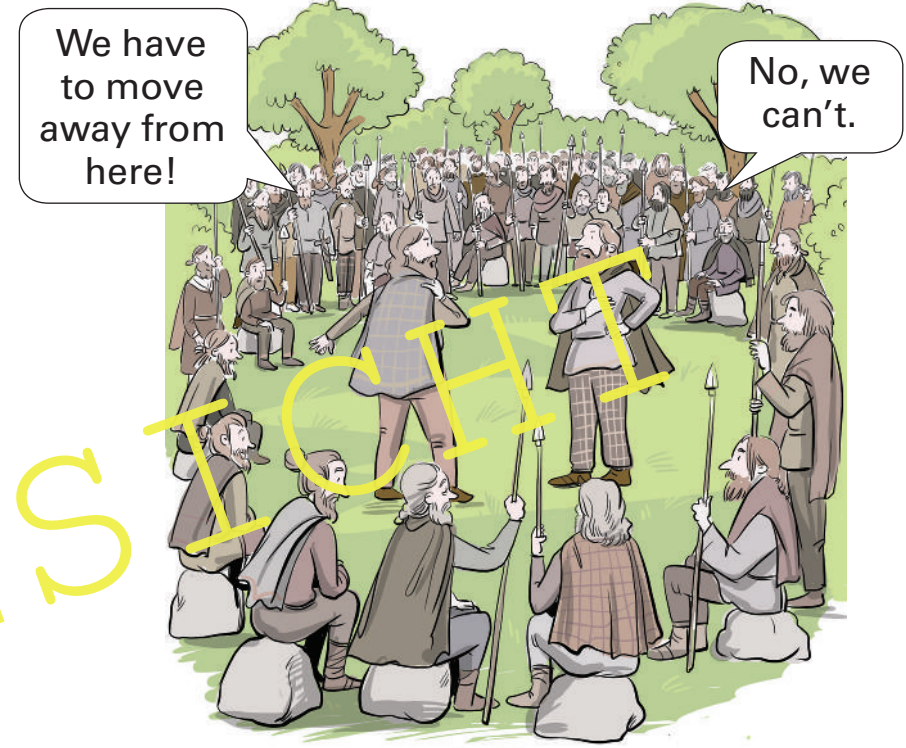
Helpful words

to come together:	sich zusammenfinden
assembly:	Versammlung
tribe member:	Stammesmitglied
weapon:	Waffe
to discuss sth.:	etw. diskutieren
to give one's opinion:	seine Meinung äußern

M 12 Should the Jutes tribe move away or stay? – Pros and cons

Find out about arguments for and against a migration.

A: Many people will die of hunger, if we stay here, because there is a famine.

B: A huge storm tide of the North Sea has destroyed the fields. We can't grow crops anymore.

C: We'll have to go through areas that belong to other tribes. They'll attack us. We'll all die in the fights.

D: We'll have to carry our belongings for a long time. That's very difficult!

E: We won't find enough food on our journey.

F: The weather here is becoming worse every day it's getting colder and colder.

We have to move away from here!

Aldemar

G: The rain has destroyed the fields. I'm pretty sure that the next harvest will be very poor.

H: We don't know, if we'll find a new home.

No, we can't move away from here!

I: The journey will be very long.

J: We'll have to go on foot because there are not many horses and oxen. That's too hard!

K: We'll have to live outdoors for years.

L: There won't be good paths or roads.

M: Many children were born in the last few years. There isn't enough food for everybody.

Kunolf

N: We are too many people for a journey. We are 80,000 men, women and children.

Task: Read the speech bubbles carefully and decide who says what. Write "A" (for Aldemar) or "K" (for Kunolf) in each speech bubble.

For fast workers: Search the Internet and find out where the Jutes tribe lived. Take notes.

M 14 Should we move away from here or stay? – Role cards

The situation: Imagine you are Aldemar and Kunolf, two members of the Jutes tribe. Tonight the question: "Should the Jutes tribe move away or stay?" will be discussed in the "thing", an assembly of the whole tribe. Talk about this question now.

Migration? – Yes, please!

You are **Aldemar**, a Teuton of the Jutes tribe. You have the opinion that your tribe should move away from your home.

Useful phrases:
- I'm for a migration because …
- In my opinion …
- I'm sure that …
- I think it's the right thing to do because …
- I feel that it's a good idea to move away because …
- I agree with you.
- I don't agree/disagree with you.

Migration? – No, thank you!

You are **Kunolf**, a Teuton of the Jutes tribe. You have the opinion that your tribe should not move away from your home.

Useful phrases:
- I'm against a migration because …
- In my opinion …
- I'm sure that …
- I think it's the wrong thing to do because …
- I feel that it's a bad idea to move away because …
- I agree with you.
- I don't agree/disagree with you.

M 15 For fast workers – questions to make your role play more interesting

Task: How do you (Aldemar and Kunolf) imagine the life of your tribe after the "thing"? Take notes on the following questions and include[1] the answers in your role play.

How do you imagine the journey?
Where will you get something to eat?
What will you do if another tribe attacks you?
To which region do you want to migrate? Why?
Do you want to cooperate[2] with other tribes?
How do you feel about the situation?

Annotations

1 **to include sth.:** etw. aufnehmen – 2 **to cooperate with so.:** mit jmdm. zusammenarbeiten