

Year 6 - Unheard histories

Surround the picture with words to describe Alfred the Great.



In appearance, speech and manners, Alfred was graceful. From childhood, his noble character gave him a deep love of learning. Sadly, due to neglect by his parents and carers, he could not read or write until he was about twelve. Despite this, he listened carefully to Saxon poems being recited and could easily memorise them. Alfred was also very keen on hunting, practising it often and successfully. He showed skill and had good luck in hunting, just as he did in everything else.

Asser, a 9th-century monk and historian, describing King Alfred the Great of Wessex (849–899). This passage has been simplified.

1 What qualities did Alfred the Great have?

2 Did Bishop Asser think Alfred was a good king?
Give evidence to support your answer.

3 Why was Alfred the Great significant?
