Achievements of Alfred

Sort these statements about King Alfred from most to least important. Use the information to answer the question. 'Was King Alfred really great?



He was never made a saint, as other Saxon kings, such as Edmund and Edward, were.

He was the king who really started the English navy.



He was very generous to his opponents after he had defeated them.

He invented the candle clock



His was the only surviving Anglo-Saxon province after the Vikings had taken the rest. If he had lost England would have been run by the Vikings.

He translated the most important books of the time from Latin into Old English which more people could then read.



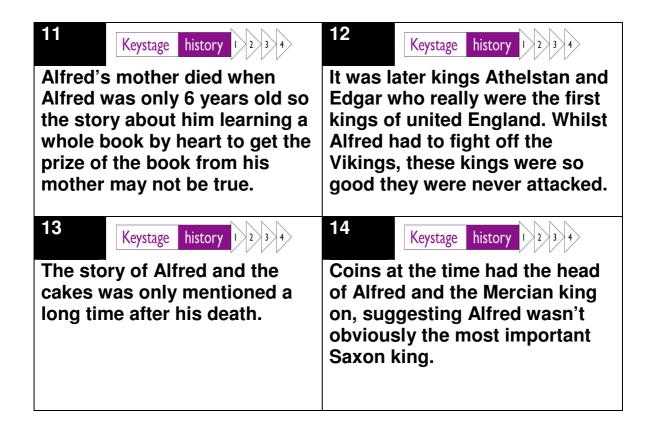
He re-organised the military to stop further Viking attacks. He set up a series of forts in towns called *burhs*. These settlements had streets set out like grids contained within strong defences.

Because of what he did, his sons were able to conquer lands in the East and North back from the Vikings.



He set up schools for priests and did a lot to improve education.

The only reason people think Alfred is so great is because he got a man called Asser to write only good things about him in his biography, leaving out all the bad.



Can you find any more information about King Alfred?