

Runic Activity 1

Using Rune-row A (see separate sheet), decipher these runes from the Lincoln comb-case and give their roman-alphabet equivalents:

ƿ ƿ ƿ ƿ : ƿ ƿ ƿ ƿ : ƿ | ƿ | : ƿ ƿ ƿ ƿ ƿ ƿ ƿ ƿ ƿ

You now have a text in Old Norse! See if you can work any of it out.

Does the first word remind you of an English word? (The clue is in the object!)

Which word do you think is a personal name?

Which word do you think means 'good'?

What kind of text would you write on a handmade comb?

Turn over for the answers!

kamb : koþan : kiari : þorfastr

comb : good : made : Thorfastr

Thorfastr made a good comb!

You can see the original object in the British Museum in London.