

## THE CELTS

**Read the following text about the Celts. Three sentences contain incorrect information. Delete them, as the example shows.**

~~Today, the Celts are extinct, and their language no longer exists.~~

The early inhabitants of Britain, the Celts, came originally from South Germany. They made their first invasion of Britain in 500 BC. The Celts invaded Iceland and Greenland as well as a small part of North America.

The last big Celtic invasion of Britain was in 50 BC. Two other Celt groups settled in Ireland and in Scotland: the Gaels and the Picts. Their languages were similar so they could understand each other. The military successes of the Celts were based on their invention of firearms.

The Celts had gods of nature - of the land and the sea, of battle and farming. The Druids were their religious leaders; they were also teachers and gave advice. The Druids published newspapers and wrote many books that we still read today.

Today descendants of the Celts live mostly in Scotland, the Isle of Man, in Wales, Cornwall and Ireland. Hardly any Celtic words remain in the English language, but Gaelic or Celtic are still spoken in parts of Ireland, Wales (about 20 % of the people there speak it) and Scotland.

**Most of these personal names are Celtic. Five of them are not. Cross them out:**

Aidan	Duncan	Gavin	Ian	Morgan
Albert	Dylan	Gordon	Maddox	Olga
Brianna	Erin	Graham	Maria	Owen
Caden	Finn	Gudrun	Maeve	Reagan
Desmond	Fiona	Gwendolyn	Michael	Rowan



From the comic book "Asterix in Britain". Julius Caesar has invaded Britain and succeeded in his conquest; but a Celtic village in Kent remains independent. One member of the village, Anticlimax, is sent to Asterix's village to bring the magic potion to the British rebels. It is decided that the Gauls Asterix and Obelix should accompany him, to help transport a barrel of the potion. The picture shows Anticlimax, Asterix and Obelix having made the crossing and entering Britain. These amusing stories are in a very free historical style.

The word *Celtic* refers to Irish culture and heritage, along with the historical people who migrated throughout much of Europe. While the early pronunciation was with an "s" sound, reflecting its nearest origin in French, the modern standard is a hard "c" sound like "k". The soft "c" sound is reserved for sports teams now, like the *Boston Celtics*.