

The Viking Language Series

The *Viking Language Series* is a two-volume introduction to Old Norse language, Viking runes, Icelandic sagas, Norse poetry, and the culture and geography of the Viking World.

Viking Language 1: Learn Old Norse, Runes, and Icelandic Sagas, the first volume, is an introductory textbook with 15 lessons, 35 readings, 45 illustrations, 25 cultural sections, 15 maps, 180 exercises, and vocabulary.

Viking Language 2: The Old Norse Reader, the second volume in the series, includes complete sagas, Norse mythic and heroic poetry, selected reading passages, reference grammar, maps, vocabulary, and answer key to exercises in *Viking Language 1*.

**Two audio downloads for *Viking Language 1: Lessons 1-8 and 9-15*
Pronounce Old Norse, Runes, and Icelandic Sagas**

VIKING LANGUAGE 1 AUDIO LESSONS 1-8

Pronounce Old Norse, Runes, and
Icelandic Sagas



Jesse Byock

VIKING LANGUAGE 1 AUDIO LESSONS 9-15

Pronounce Old Norse, Runes, and
Icelandic Sagas



Jesse Byock

The Author

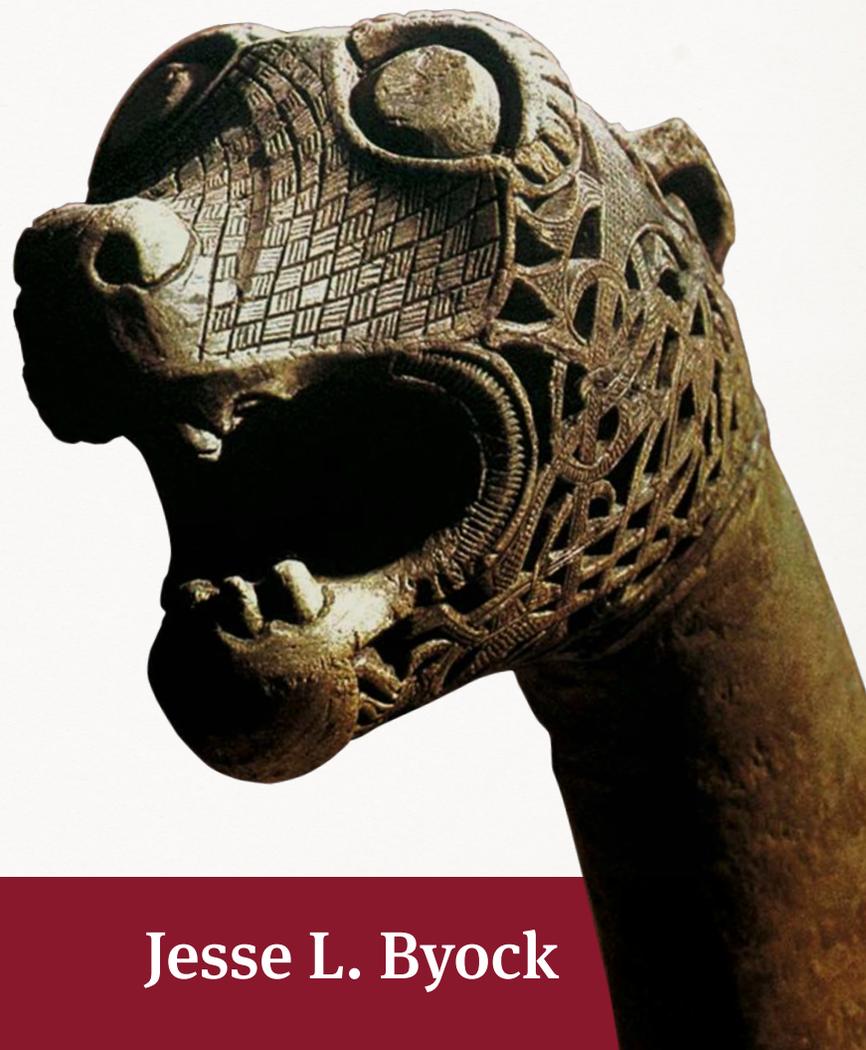


Jesse Byock is Distinguished Professor of Old Norse and Medieval Scandinavian Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and professor at UCLA's Cotsen Institute of Archaeology.

He directs the Mosfell Archaeological Project in Iceland and teaches Old Norse – Icelandic. He is the author of *Viking Age Iceland*, *Medieval Iceland* and *Feud in the Icelandic Saga*. His translations from Old Norse include *The Prose Edda*, *The Saga of the Volsungs*, *The Saga of King Hrolf Kraki*, *Sagas and Myths of the Northmen*, and *Grettir's Saga*.

VIKING LANGUAGE 1

Learn Old Norse, Runes, and Icelandic Sagas



Now in Print
vikinglanguage.com

More information and samples of Old Norse pronunciation at
vikinglanguage.com

Jesse L. Byock

The Volumes

Viking Language 1 is an innovative method for learning Old Norse, the language of Vikings, runes, and the Icelandic sagas. Vikings were the first northern Europeans to harness the technology of long-distance seafaring, and they sailed over 1/3 of the globe. Their Scandinavian language, Old Norse, is the parent of modern Icelandic, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, and Faroese.

Viking Language is a comprehensive entry into the Norse world. Readings tell of gods, heroes, sacral kingship, blood feuds, and daily life. The learner journeys through Viking Age Denmark, Iceland, Greenland, Norway, Sweden, Britain, Russia, and Byzantium.

Viking Language provides all tools necessary to master Old Norse. It is designed for both classroom and self-learners. Each lesson includes reading passages, cultural sections, grammar, and exercises. From the first lesson it teaches the most frequently used words, which comprise the majority of saga vocabulary. Upon completing *Viking Language*, you will read sagas, decipher runic inscriptions, and be well on the way to learning modern Icelandic.

A special feature is the ample information about Iceland, where sagas were written and Norse history and myth preserved.



Viking Language 2: The Old Norse Reader is the second volume in the *Viking Language* series. It complements the lessons in *Viking Language 1* and offers

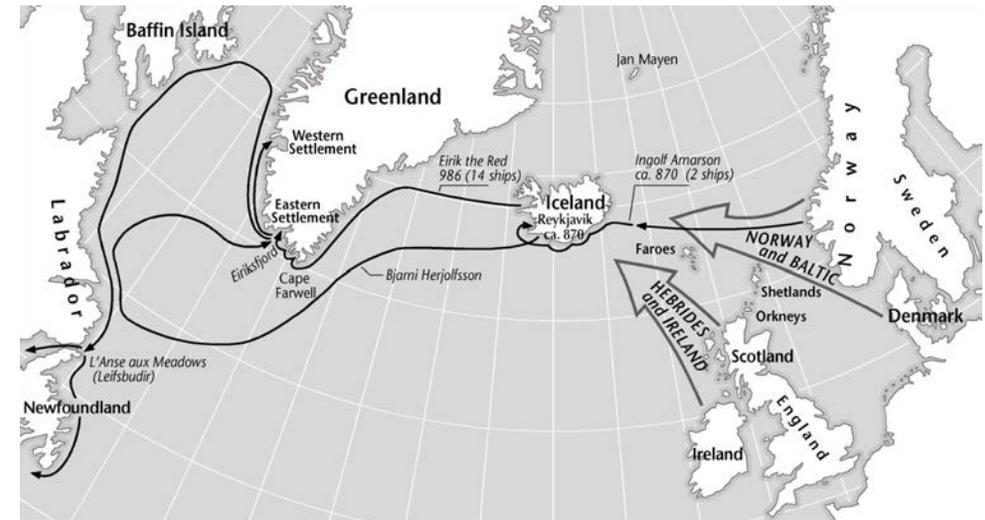
- ▶ Complete Icelandic sagas, *The Saga of the People of Weapon's Fjord* and *Hrafinkel's Saga*. Introductions, maps, and extensive notes accompany these tales of blood feud.
- ▶ Old Norse mythic and heroic verse. Students learn eddic and skaldic poetry including poems in runes.
- ▶ A broad selection of Old Norse prose.
- ▶ A comprehensive Old Norse reference grammar and an extensive vocabulary.

vikinglanguage.com

Examples from Viking Language 1 & 2

Cultural Section

Sailing west to Iceland, Greenland and North America



The Norse Cross the Atlantic. Routes taken by settlers to Iceland, Greenland and North America (*Vinland*) from the ninth to the eleventh centuries.

Reading Runes Inscription from Uppland, Sweden describing a Viking commander in the armies of the Byzantine Empire.



R N T T · R I H T T · N I T · R T * T N T T R · * N T R † ·
P R I P T T T T · N T H · N H · P F R N T P I ·

Transliteration:
runa · rista · lit ·
rahnualtr · huar a
griklandi · uas · lis ·
forunki ·

Standardized Old Norse:
Rúna[r] rista lét
Ragnvaldr, hvern á
Griklandi vas li[ð]s
forungi.

Vocabulary:
forungi *m* captain, commander, leader
Grikland *n* Greece, Byzantine Empire (*place name*)
hverr *rel pron* who
láta <lætr, lét, létu, látinn> *vb* allow, permit; have something done
lið *n* band of men, troop
Ragnvaldr <-s> *m* Ragnvald (*personal name*)
rista <ristr, reist, ristu, ristinn> *vb* carve, engrave;
láta rista rúnar have runes carved
rún <pl -ar> *f* rune, a letter in the runic 'futhork'
vas (*older form of var*) *3sg past of vera*