

# AFARINESH IELTS Radio – Podcast 51

**Describe a historical period that you are interested in.**

**You should say:**

- **What the historical period is**
- **How you know it**
- **What happened during that period**
- **And why you find it interesting**

It's so funny, you know, history was never **my strong suit** back in the day when I was a high schooler. I'd usually just **ditch** classes and **play truant** only because of subjects like history that used to **bore me out of my gourd**. I hope what I said doesn't **depict** me as a **goofus**, cause **hand to god**, I'm not. Anyhow, since I'm a **die-hard** fan of historical movies and tv series, as an **ancillary** benefit of watching them, I get to know about what actually **went down** hundreds of years ago when there was no civilization and no human rights. one of the most attractive **epochs** in history that **signifies merciless brutality** and **savagery** is the Vikings' era. Now, I'm not saying that I'm a history **guru** but the knowledge and facts that I've **garnered**, all prove that this period of time, is nothing like any other peaceful periods in history where everything was all **hunky-dory**, it's pretty **macho**. It only takes a google search to see how **petrifyingly gore** everything could have got back then. The way I saw it, the only thing that mattered among the Vikings was that how **adroit** men could prove to be in **ganking their foes**. In case you're wondering, **chivalry** was not admired whatsoever. If anything, **going out on a limb** for your friends and stuff would have certainly **gotten your goose cooked**.

## **Language Focus:**

### **someone's strong suit**

something that someone does well

Tact has never been his strong suit.

### **ditch**

ditch school means to leave school and not go back there for the rest of the day.

### **Play truant**

stay away from school without leave or explanation.

"he often played truant and he usually wrote his own absence notes"

### **Bore someone out of their gourd**

be so bored you don't know what to do, basically to be bored out of your mind

### **depict**

show

### **goofus**

a foolish or stupid person (often used as a general term of abuse).

### **Hand to God**

I swear to God

### **die-hard**

strongly or fanatically determined or devoted

die-hard fans

### **ancillary**

providing necessary support to the primary activities or operation of an organization, system, etc.

"ancillary staff"

### **Go down**

be recorded or remembered in a particular way.

"his name will go down in history"

**Epoch**

a particular period of time in history or a person's life.

"the Victorian epoch"

**Signify**

be an indication of.

"this decision signified a fundamental change in their priorities"

**Merciless**

having or showing no mercy:

There are reports of merciless attacks on innocent civilians.

**Brutality**

savage physical violence; great cruelty.

"brutality against civilians"

**Savagery**

the quality of being fierce or cruel.

"a crime of the utmost savagery"

**Guru**

an influential teacher or popular expert.

"a management guru"

**Garner**

gather or collect (something, especially information or approval).

"the police struggled to garner sufficient evidence"

**hunky-dory**

fine; going well.

"everything is hunky-dory"

**macho**

behaving forcefully or showing no emotion in a way traditionally thought to be typical of a man:

He's too macho to admit he was hurt when his girlfriend left him.

**petrifying**

overwhelmingly frightening

**gore**

gruesomeness depicted in vivid detail

**adroit**

clever or skillful.

"he was adroit at tax avoidance"

**gank one's foe**

attack an enemy by surprise while they are off guard in hopes of getting a kill on them

**chivalry**

the medieval knightly system with its religious, moral, and social code.

"the age of chivalry"

**go out on a limb**

in or into a dangerous or uncompromising position, where one is not joined or supported by anyone else; vulnerable.

**get your goose cooked**

The meaning of "your goose is cooked" is nominally "you are in big trouble" but it can include "you caused yourself big trouble."