

# The Scottish Wars of Independence: William Wallace - Initial Teaching Ideas



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These teaching ideas are designed to be used in conjunction with the Scran Pathfinder Pack "William Wallace". Start by giving students access to the informative text in the pack, and the images: you may wish to download the images to project onto a whiteboard, or print out larger copies.

## Questions for Discussion

- What were the circumstances which led to Wallace leading the fight against England?
- How did he set about opposing the English and what was the English response?
- What sort of character do you think he was?
- Consider the Battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297 - What tactics did the Scots use?
- How do you think the English saw the battle? What were the results of the battle?
- What was the reaction of Edward I and how did Edward get his revenge?
- What were the effects of Edward's victory at the Battle of Falkirk? What reasons can you think of why the Scots lost this battle?
- Discuss Wallace's trial - do you think it was fair? Why was it hard for him to have a fair trial? Why was he declared an outlaw by the English authorities?
- Why do you think Wallace felt he had to give up the post of the Guardian of Scotland after the Battle of Falkirk?

## Activity

Pupils could write a newspaper report for the Battle of Stirling Bridge. Encourage some of them to write it from a Scottish point of view and some from the point of view of the English.