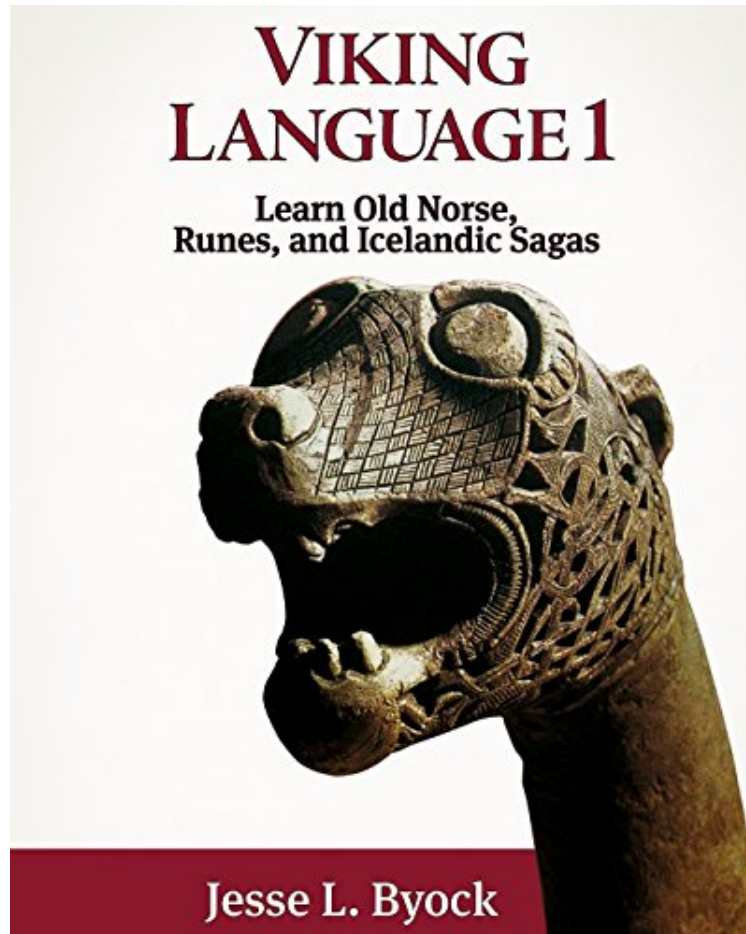


## Viking Language 1: Learn Old Norse, Runes, and Icelandic Sagas (Viking Language Series)

Jesse L. Byock

*\*Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks*



 Download

 Read Online

#72548 in Books CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform 2013-03-18Original language:EnglishPDF #1 10.00 x .87 x 8.00l, 1.67 #File Name: 1480216445384 pages | File size: 18.Mb

**Jesse L. Byock : Viking Language 1: Learn Old Norse, Runes, and Icelandic Sagas (Viking Language Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Viking Language 1: Learn Old Norse, Runes, and Icelandic Sagas (Viking Language Series):

29 of 31 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Resource and best available optionBy S. DondershineEdit: The answer key has now been made available on the publisher's website, so I have adjusted my rating accordingly and the review below should be considered in that light. Thank you Professor Byock!I have been reading Professor Byock's work on the Vikings since college, so needless to say, I was delighted to see this course made available, in my case for self study. I am now two chapters into the book, and I think it incorporates a wonderful strategy and method and has tremendous potential. However, I have two criticisms that prevent this from being a 5 star purchase: the first is that the answer key really needs to be made available \*now.\* I understand that perhaps the book is intended for college courses and oftentimes the answer key is presented in a "teacher's only" reader, but for those of

us doing self-study, it is absolutely crippling and seriously hampers the ability to use the book effectively. It's boggling to my mind that they would release this book at all without making the key available as a download on the website. I believe the intention is to have the key in Viking Reader 2, which I would be happy to buy, but it is not available and may not be for quite some time. The two books should have been published simultaneously. My advice if you are considering purchasing this book is to wait until the Viking Language 2 book comes out. My second criticism of this course is that the audio accompaniment, which you will have to pay for separately, is very fast and not terribly user friendly. It is not read in such a way that it is useful for a student unfamiliar with Icelandic and very difficult to emulate or to parse in accompaniment with the reading. All in all, this is still however the best option on the market for learning Old Norse! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A solid textbook, albeit with some typos By Alyssa I have had a very solid experience working through this book so far. The text is aimed at a beginner not just to learning Old Norse, but to someone unfamiliar with the time period as well. The pace is a little slower because of this, especially because the author includes a lot of cultural context for the language and readings. Grammar explanations cover not only ON grammar, but also explain grammar for those unfamiliar with English structure. That being said, I think the explanations still might be a little bit difficult to follow for someone with absolutely no prior knowledge of the vocabulary used to talk about grammar (for example, what declensions are and what the role of each case is). I've had a lot of experience with Latin, so it's hard for me to be totally objective on the difficulty. I would say that if you have had prior language experience, the pace might be a little leisurely, but personally I only have a little bit of time to study ON everyday, so it hasn't been an issue at all. The dictionary in the back of the book is only ON to English, so if you want to look up words that haven't been presented yet in a lesson, you'll have a tough time. I do wonder at how thoroughly edited the book is. I've found multiple (though not frequent) typos so far, including one incorrect answer in the answer key posted online. I've found one instance of a word mentioned in a lesson not being included in the dictionary in the back. There are also occasional formatting issues. For example, many exercises are formatted into columns, and occasionally you'll find an instance where you have exercise 1 and 6 at the bottom of the page, and you have to flip to see 2-5 and 7-10. I've seen a reading similarly formatted, requiring you to flip to the next page in the middle of the text. Sometimes the word glosses for readings are also split and pushed onto the next page. None of these have been deal breakers for me, but it is certainly annoying to have to flip back and forth. Overall, as someone with a lot of language experience and not a ton of time for going through exercises everyday, this book has been great. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I love it! The one negative review complains that there ... By S. MARCHUSI love it! The one negative review complains that there is too much English, and not enough Old Norse. This is a fair criticism, if you expect the book to be purely about language, but there is a fair amount of historical and cultural information that I find fascinating. For the most part, the lessons are clear and as easy to follow as the language allows. I was surprised at how quickly you jump into reading in Old Norse, and I will definitely get the second volume. Don't miss the audio releases!

"Viking Language 1 - Learn Old Norse, Runes, and Icelandic Sagas" provides everything necessary to learn Old Norse, runes, and tackle Icelandic sagas. Graded lessons, saga readings, runic inscriptions, grammar exercises, pronunciation, maps, cultural sections, student guide, and vocabulary teach about Vikings, Iceland, old Scandinavia, myths and legends. ----- DOWNLOAD FREE ANSWER KEY on [vikinglanguage.com](http://vikinglanguage.com) ----- Now available, two audio MP3 download Old Norse pronunciation albums "Viking Language 1: Audio Lessons 1-8: (Pronounce Old Norse, Runes, and Icelandic Sagas)" and "Viking Language 1: Audio Lessons 9-15." To find search "Viking Language audio lessons" under "all departments" and "MP3 music." ----- Visit [vikinglanguage.com](http://vikinglanguage.com) for information about the "Viking Language Series" and for samples of the audio readings ---- Forthcoming soon "Viking Language 2 The Old Norse Reader" including, prose selections, complete sagas, poems of the Scandinavian gods and heroes, Old Norse runes, reference grammar, and vocabulary.

Even the many academics who have done their best to learn Old Norse old-style, and then to teach it, will benefit from working through the course. As for students coming to the language without prior experience, they have it all: a very thorough grammar, but carefully spaced-out, explained without short cuts, and reinforced by exercises graded from absolute no-knowledge upward; well-selected and well-varied texts, with considerable use not only of the sagas but also of runestone-inscriptions, eddic poems and even notoriously difficult skaldic poems; and cultural background which takes in strange reports like that of the Arab traveller Ibn Fadlan (which gave rise to the movie *The Thirteenth Warrior*), maps, explanations and reconstructions... There is no-one better-qualified than Professor Byock to link up sagas with archaeology. (Tom Shippey) About the Author Jesse Byock is Distinguished Professor of Old Norse and Medieval Scandinavian Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles, and professor at UCLA's Cotsen Institute of Archaeology. He directs the Mosfell Archaeological Project in Iceland. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University. Prof. Byock teaches Old Norse, the Icelandic sagas, Viking history and archaeology and directs the Mosfell Archaeological Project (MAP) in Iceland. He writes about Vikings, Iceland, feud, and archaeology. Jesse Byock is the author of *Viking Age 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, and Grettirs Saga. See [www.vikingnorse.com](http://www.vikingnorse.com) and [www.viking.ucla.edu](http://www.viking.ucla.edu)