



The Norman Conquest Knowledge Organiser

Autumn Term 1

Golden Threads of Learning: Causes and Consequence and Change and Continuity

1. Norman Conquest

Historical Skills Claimant to the throne

Battle of Stamford Bridge Battle of Hastings Why did William Win? Feudal System Castles

2. Plantagenet Kings 3. Peasant Life 5. Tudor Family 5. Witch craze

6. Industrial Revolution

Key Word	Definition
Medieval	The period between 1066 and 1500
Chronology	Putting events in the order in which they happened
Century	100 Years
AD	Anno Domini
ВС	Before Christ
Decade	10 Years
Millennium	1000 years
Anglo Saxons	People that lived in England before the Norman conquest
Normans	People from Normandy region of France, led by King William
Bayeux Tapestry	An embroidery showing the events of the Norman conquest
Conquest	Taking an area using force
Heir	Next inline to the throne
Fyrd	Local farmers that fight for Harold Godwinson
Housecarls	Paid, experienced soldiers that fought for Harold Godwinson's army
Cavalry	William's soldiers that fought on horses
Harrying	To completely destroy
Pope	Head of the Catholic church
Claimant	Someone who believed that they should be king – have a claim on the throne
Shield wall	Overlapping shields for battle protection
Witan	Kings council made up of powerful Bishops and Earls who help the king to run the country
Pillage	To rob, using violence, often in wartime

Britain before 1066

Anglo Saxons: People who lived in Britain from the 5th century. They included people from Germanic tribes who migrated to the island from Europe.

Edward the Confessor: 1042 - 1066

- Edward became king of England in 1042 after his half brother died. Before this he had been living in Normandy.
- •Edward married but had no children. It was not clear who Edward wanted to be king after him. For a king to die without an heir was a disaster!

Claimants to the throne









Edgar Aethling

Harold Godwinson

Harald Hardrada

William of Normandy

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Key Date	Event	
5 th Jan 1066	Edward the Confessor dies.	
6 th Jan 1066	Harold Godwinson crowned King of England.	
20 th Sept 1066	Harald Hardrada and Tostig invade with more than 10,000 men and 200 long ships. Anglo Saxon earls Edwin and Morcar defend at the Battle of Gate Fulford.	
25 th Sept 1066	Harold Godwinson travels north to fight Harald Hardrada. In four days he marched 180 miles to surprise Hardrada and Tostig east of York. Godwinson defeats Hardrada but his army is tired and reduced in size.	
27 th Sept 1066	William of Normandy sets sail with almost 700 ships. He lands at Pevensey and makes a small castle. The Normans pillage and destroy the surrounding area in order to force Harold Godwinson to come south. Harold Godwinson races back to face William in Battle.	
12 th Oct 1066	Harold arrives in London to recruit more troops.	
14 th Oct 1066	Battle of Hastings resulting in death of King Harold.	

Why did William win the Battle of Hastings?

There are four main reasons why William won the Battle of Hastings:

- Preparation
- Leadership
- **Tactics**
- Luck

In History we PEEL our paragraphs!



Point Evidence Explain Link paragraph

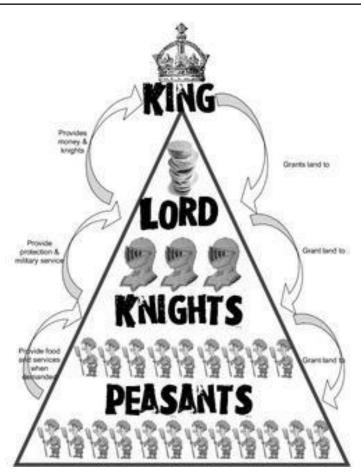
One reason why William won the Battle of Hastings was luck.

Evidence for this is the wind changed direction allowing William and his army to invade on the 28th of September. Harold Godwinson and his army were still in the North of England.

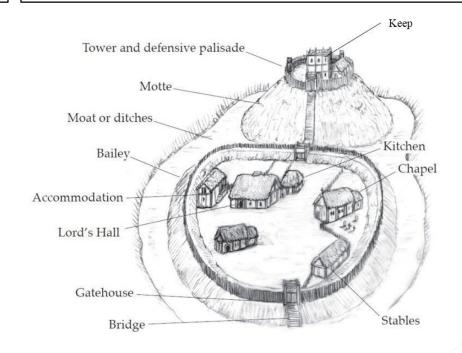
Due to the wind changing William was able to invade after the Battle of Stamford Bridge. Many of Harold's housecarls had been killed because of this William had an advantage and managed to defeat Harold's untrained fyrd.

Therefore, luck was the main reason William was able to win the Battle of Hastings.

The Feudal System



Motte and Bailey Castle



You might like to read...

- William the Conqueror (Just William Series) by Richmal Cromptom
- Outlaw: The Story of Robinhood by Michael Morpurgo
- Anglo Saxon Boy by Tony Bradman
 - Horrible Histories Stormin Normans by Terry Deary and Martin Brown
- Horrible Histories Smashin Saxons by Terry Deary and Martin Brown

