



Foxford Learning Plan

YEAR 7

Topic – The Norman Conquest

Spring 1

Key Vocabulary

Harold Godwinson	Crowned King of England in January 1066.
William Duke of Normandy	Became King of England when he defeated Godwinson at the Battle of Hastings in October 1066.
Harald Hardrada	A Viking ruler who was defeated by King Harold at the Battle of Stamford Bridge in September 1066, thus failing to invade England successfully.
Feudal System	A system of hierarchy which ensured that the King kept as much control of the country as possible.
Castle	A type of defensive fortress. These were built by William across England as part of the Norman Conquest.
Doomsday Book	A survey of land ownership enforced by William the Conqueror as a way of auditing and monitoring the nobles of England.
Huscarl	Trained Anglo-Saxon infantry (soldiers) who the King could call on if needed in a war. They had 6ft axes.
Fyrd	Untrained peasants without proper weapons who fought when the king needed them to.
Cavalry	A unit of soldiers mounted on horseback.

Key Skills

Over the course of the topic, I will be able to: -

Explain why Harold Godwinson was chosen as King of England in 1066.

Write an account of the events of the Battle of Hastings.

Categorise the factors for William's victory at Hastings in order of importance.

Recognise and comment on the problems that William the Conqueror faced as the new King of England in 1066.

Evaluate the solutions to those problems by focussing on the Feudal System, castle building and the writing of the Doomsday Book.



Why did the Normans win the Battle of Hastings?

I will Understand

1. Why Harold Godwinson was seen as the best choice for the Witan when choosing Edward the Confessor's successor in January 1066.
2. Why William Duke of Normandy won the Battle of Hastings in October 1066.
3. How the Feudal System helped William keep control of England.
4. How building a network of castles and the Doomsday Book helped William keep control of England.
5. Assessment skill - That William won the Battle of Hastings because of a range of factors.