

History Term 1: How did William conquer and control England?

Year 7

Term 1

(1) Problems after Edward the Confessor's Death	(2) Contenders to the Throne	(3) Key Battles of 1066
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Edward the Confessor

- Edward had been a popular king and he had overseen a time of security and stability in England.

Edward's Death

- Edward and Edith did not have children, therefore upon his death England was left without a monarch.
- Three main contenders to the throne were left to fight it out.

Heir A person in line to be monarch (King or Queen).

Harold Godwinson

- A powerful English Earl, who the Witan crowned as King upon Edward's death.

William, Duke of Normandy

- A ferocious French Duke, notorious for treating his enemy brutally. He claimed that Edward promised him the throne.

Harald Hardrada

- A vicious Viking warrior from Norway who wanted to claim England for the Vikings.

The Battle of Fulford

- Harald Hardrada and his forces, along with English Earls Edwin and Morcar, leading to a great victory for the Vikings.

The Battle of Stamford Bridge

- The Saxons surprise the Vikings as they celebrate their win at Fulford. The Saxons beat the Vikings, killing Harald Hardrada in the process. The Vikings had sailed to England on 300 longships, they would return to Norway in only 24 days.

The Battle of Hastings

- William arrives after the storm clears. The Saxons meet the Normans on Senlac Hill at 9am, King Harold was killed by 3pm. Despite the Saxon's shield wall, the Norman feigned retreat wins the battle for them.

(4) How did William grab control in the short term?

(5) How did William keep control in the long term?

(6) Who were the women who supported the contenders?

The Bayeux Tapestry

- This long piece of fabric was decorated with the story of William's victory. Imagery and text which details the whole story of 1066 was sewn onto the fabric to show the Normans as victorious.

Moats and Bailey Castles

- William ensures that wooden castles are built all over England made of 2 to 3 weeks. He stationed loyal Barons here to watch over the English.

The Harrying of the North

- Earls Edwin and Morcar try to lead rebellions against William. In retaliation, he attacks the North of English with brutality. Around 100,000 people were killed or starved because salt was poured to the earth.

The Feudal System

- The system of dividing up land and giving 'shires' to Barons, who then gave plots of land to knights, who then promised to protect the peasants if they worked on the land. This gave peasants to the land and gave William power and control.

The Domesday Book

- By 1086, William began to fear there may soon be another invading force in England. He ordered that any and all tax owed to him should be collected. To do this, his men had to visit every village and town in England, and write down exactly what was there. This information led to two enormously detailed books.

Harold's C...

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