# **SUBJECT:** History

# **UNIT: How did William conquer and control**



# Potential heirs to the English throne in 1066: Who should become king?

# **Harald Hardrada**

Viking King of Norway
Vikings had ruled Britain before.
Most feared warrior in Europe –
Hardrada means 'hard ruler' and
his nickname was 'the Ruthless'.
Harald was supported by Tostig,
Harold Godwinson's brother who
wanted revenge.



## **Harold Godwinson**

Anglo-Saxon. Earl of Wessex, one of the most powerful men in England

Harold's sister was married to King Edward. Harold was a brave and respected solder with a tough streak.

The Witan, wanted Harold to be the next king.

# William of Normandy

Duke of Normandy, France. William came from a fighting family. He was a brave solider. Edward's cousin. Edward had lived in Normandy from 1016-1042. Edward had supposedly promised that William should become King of England.



# Why did William win the Battle of Hastings?

# Preparations:

- William had well trained and professional soldiers compared to Harold's (Fyrd-made up of many farmers),
- William's men were ready, rested and well supplied. Harold's army was tired following the Battle of Stanford Bridge.

## Luck:

- Harold had to fight the Vikings first this gave William the advantage.
- During the battle the Saxons broke the shield wall during the Norman tactic (feigned retreat).

### Leadership:

- William was very brave and led his men very well.
- William showed his face during the battle to keep his solders from running away.
- He used tactics such as the feigned retreat which led to Harold being shot in the eye.

SHORT TERM: LONG TERM:

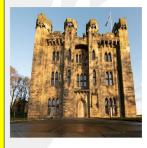


# **Problems and Solutions**

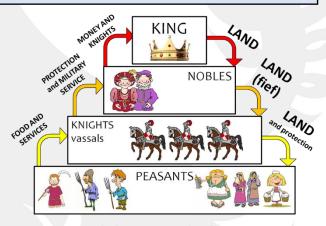
Angry rebellion at Dover- William used negotiation and force. Rebellion of English earls in London-William used violence and force e.g. William's army robbed & destroyed villages. People in the north were organising rebellions with the Vikings-William used violence and force- Known as the 'Harrying of the North'.

#### CASTLES

Motte and Bailey: built to help fight against rebellions. They were built quickly and made out of wood. The Bailey was on flat land, where majority of the people lived. The Motte was the higher land of the castle. where the fort was.



Site study: Hylton castle.



Feudal Pyramid of Power

#### **DOMESDAY BOOK**

In 1086, William sent out surveyors to every part of England, with orders to list: how much land was there, who had owned it in 1066, and who owned it now, what was the place like, and who lived there, how much it was worth in 1066 and how much now William did this to allow him to effectively tax the land and earn money.



AV: Succession/Contender, Conquer, Invasion, Significance, Taxation, hierarchy