

What metacognitive strategy will you use to make sure this knowledge sticks? <https://www.catlive.co.uk/learning-videos/>

King of England, Edward the Confessor died on 5th January 1066 without an heir, who would be the next king of England?

Four claimants to the throne

The throne was contested after Edward the Confessor died without an heir.

- ✓ Four men claimed they should be the next king:
- ✓ Edgar Aethling – blood relative, great nephew but only 15 years old
- ✓ William of Normandy – brother-in-law, cousin and an experienced ruler, promised the throne back in 1051 and 1064
- ✓ Harald Hardrada – “hard ruler” as a fierce commander. Respected King of Norway, claiming throne back for his Uncle Magnus who was also promised the crown before Edward was made king
- ✓ Harold Godwinson – richest man in England, also promised the throne by Edward and backed by the Witan

Key Terms

Claimant / contender for throne Heir / inheritor / successor	Housecarl – best Anglo-Saxon soldiers usually used as guards to the King	Feudal System – social and political hierarchy (pyramid of power) the shows how land and is given in exchange for their loyalty and services	
Oath / promise – taken very seriously at the time	Fyrd – normal men called up to form an army for Anglo-Saxon kings (not skilled in war though)	Domesday – judgement day earliest public record. It contains the results of a huge survey of land and landholding commissioned	Bias – unfair, not balanced, one sided
Witan – Council of nobles and churchmen who advised the Anglo-Saxon kings. Often rich and powerful.	Archers – men with bow and arrows	Rebellion / Revolt - attempts to overthrow a king or ruler by fighting against them	Noble / Earls / Barons
(Anglo) Saxons – English (Godwinson)	Infantry - soldiers trained, armed, and equipped to fight on foot	Governed / ruled / controlled	Knights / vassals (holds land in the feudal system)
Vikings – Scandinavian (Hardrada)	Cavalry – soldiers trained, armed and equipped to fight on horse back	Taxes - money charged and paid to the king	Peasants / serfs / villein
Normans – Northern French (William)	Shield wall – a defence strategy used by Godwinson where soldiers all held their shields together to form a very strong powerful barrier	Shire - traditional term for division of land - a county like Hampshire or Wiltshire	Motte and Bailey castle – first built in wood then improved by stone (Palisade, drawbridge, keep)
Take things further: https://www.parliament.uk/about/living-heritage/evolutionofparliament/originsofparliament/birthofparliament/overview/origins/			

Events leading to William gaining England



Battle of Fulford - 20 September 1066	Battle of Stamford Bridge - 25 September 1066	Battle of Hastings – 14 October 1066
<p>Tostig Godwinson (evil brother of Harold) joined forces with Hardrada to battle earls Edwin and Morcar (Harold's new brother in laws in the North). It was a major disaster for King Harold II. He had expected his northern earls to defeat the Norwegians whilst he waited for Duke William's invasion from the south. Harold II would have to finish the job himself. The outcome was a decisive victory for Harald Hardrada. He captured the city of York and camped his army 15 miles south at Stamford Bridge to wait for Edwin and Morcar to send money and hostages.</p>	<p>King Harold realised the immediate danger of the Norwegian victory in the north. Within just two days King Harold assembled his army of 15,000 men, including 3,000 of his elite troops - the housecarls. He marched across 185 miles in just four days. King Harold won an astonishing victory against the Norwegian forces of Harald Hardrada and Tostig as they were caught off guard and all those camped at Stamford Bridge were killed. Both Tostig and Hardrada were killed during the battle. King Harold may have won this battle, but he had lost a third of his troops. He added to his army with the fyrd. They were not fully trained soldiers so were weaker.</p>	<p>After being spotted William's men, Harold and his army took up a defensive position on Senlac Hill and formed a shield wall. William's archers fired but the infantry could not defeat Harold's shield wall. William's cavalry also failed to break the shield wall, and some began to retreat after rumours of William's death. William rode to the front of his army and lifted his helmet to show his men that he was still alive. He led another attack on the shield wall. Late afternoon William's cavalry tried to move the English away from their defensive position by faking retreat. So, the inexperienced fyrd left the shield wall and tried to attack the Norman cavalry who turned round and cut the English to pieces. As more of Harold's army came down from the hill to help, the Normans took the opportunity to break the shield wall. Finally, around 5pm an arrow killed King Harold, so the English lost all their spirit and control and were killed by the Normans.</p>



Housecarls

Fyrd



Shield Wall

Differences in the
armies and tactics
Godwinson V William



Archers

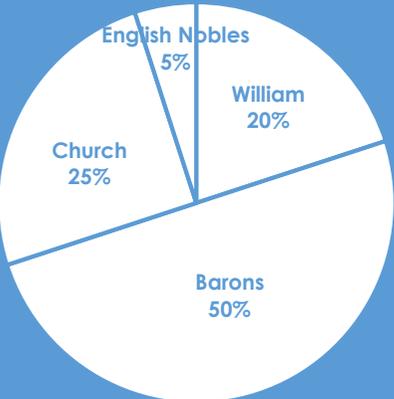
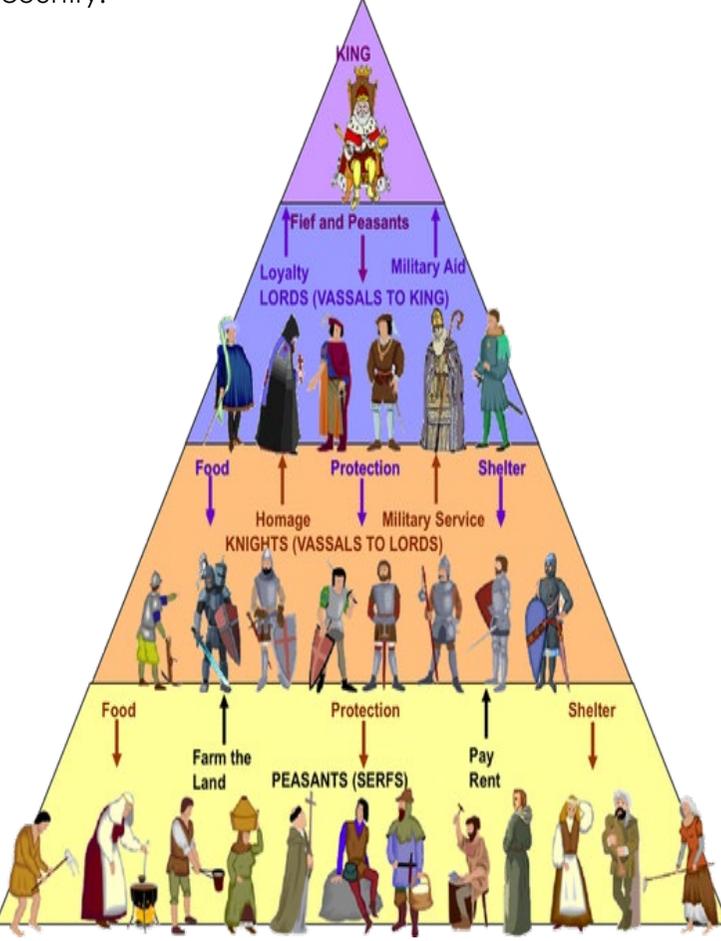
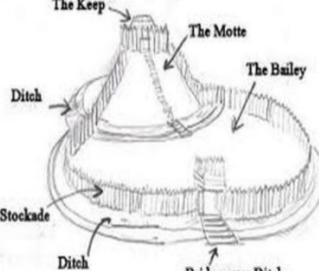
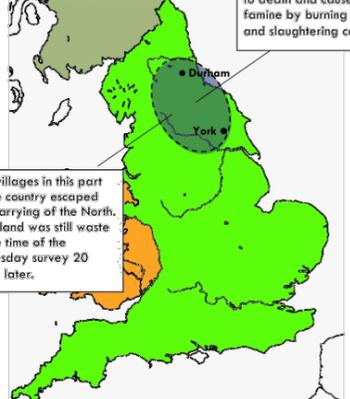


Infantry



Cavalry

How William controlled England until his death 21 years later

Domesday Book	Feudal System	Motte & Bailey Castles	Harrying of the North								
<p>Domesday Book was also meant Judgement Day as William sent his men over all England to find out information about his land and its value so he could redistribute it all. He wanted to know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Number of hides (houses with land) ✓ What stock was on the land ✓ What dues (income from taxes) he ought to have by the year ✓ How much land his archbishops, bishops, abbots, and earls had ✓ How much each man had ✓ How much everything was worth <div data-bbox="107 884 568 1487" style="background-color: #4a86e8; color: white; padding: 10px;"> <p>LAND OWNED</p>  <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td>English Nobles</td> <td>5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>William</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Church</td> <td>25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Barons</td> <td>50%</td> </tr> </table> </div>	English Nobles	5%	William	20%	Church	25%	Barons	50%	<p>When William became King he introduced a new kind of feudal system into Britain. A pyramid of power. William confiscated the land in England from the Saxon lords and allocated it to members of his own family and the Norman lords who had helped him conquer the country.</p>  <p>The diagram illustrates the Feudal Pyramid with four levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Top Level (Purple): KING. Provides 'Fief and Peasants' to Lords. Second Level (Blue): LORDS (VASSALS TO KING). Provide 'Loyalty' to the King and receive 'Military Aid' from the King. Third Level (Orange): KNIGHTS (VASSALS TO LORDS). Provide 'Homage' to Lords and receive 'Food', 'Protection', and 'Shelter' from Lords. Knights provide 'Military Service' to Lords. Bottom Level (Yellow): PEASANTS (SERFS). Provide 'Pay Rent' to Knights and receive 'Food', 'Protection', and 'Shelter' from Knights. Peasants 'Farm the Land' for Knights. 	<p>Castles were at the heart of William's strategy for the conquest of England. As he captured towns, villages and strategic river fords and road crossings, he secured his acquisitions by building castles. The castles provided his troops with strong defensive structures to guard against any Saxon rebellion and revolt. They also served as central points of supply and support for the robbing bands of Norman soldiers that terrorised the English. He went first to Dover, securing the site with a motte and bailey castle at this most strategic point just a few miles across the English Channel from Europe.</p> 	<p>The biggest rebellion was in the north of England in 1069. It was led by Edgar the Atheling (remember him!) who was joined by Danish and Scottish armies. William defeated the rebellion but didn't trust the English people. In the north-east of England, from 1069 to 1070, he ordered villages to be destroyed and people to be killed. Herds of animals and crops were burnt. Most people who survived starved to death. The northern population reduced by 75% and the land was poisoned to prevent people growing crops in the future. Even by the standards of the time, the Harrying was seen as excessively cruel by William.</p>  <div data-bbox="1980 1018 2136 1123" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <p>William's men destroyed towns and villages, put men, women and children to death and caused a famine by burning crops and slaughtering cattle.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1711 1251 1890 1362" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <p>Few villages in this part of the country escaped the Harrying of the North. Most land was still waste at the time of the Domesday survey 20 years later.</p> </div>
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Prepare for a class quiz w/c 18 October 2021

Example Question		Model Answer
1	How did Edward the Confessor cause chaos and risk invasion of England even though he was dead?	He hadn't appointed a new King. Broken promises to Godwinson and William and Hardrada. No heir to the throne had been arranged.
2	Who replaced Edward the Confessor as King? How long did he rule?	Harold Godwinson. 9 / 10 months until he lost at the Battle of Hastings against William.
3	What reasons did Godwinson have as claim to the throne?	Edward promised him just before he died, he was the richest man in England, he was related by marriage to Edward's sister, Witan support
4	What was the group of powerful men called who advised Anglo Saxon kings?	The Witan from the word witenagemot - means meeting of wise men
5	What bias may have existed by the Witan in appointing Godwinson?	He was the richest man in England. He would not change the men with the Witan so they would be ok.
6	What were people from Scandinavia, Northern France and England called then?	Vikings, Normans, (Anglo) Saxons
7	What are the dates of the Battles of 1066 - Fulford, Stamford Bridge and Hastings?	Fulford 20 September, Stamford 25 September, Hastings 14 October
8	Who battled who at Fulford? Who won the battle?	Tostig and Hardrada v Earls Edwin and Morcar. Tostig and Hardrada won.
9	Who battled who at Stamford Bridge? Who won the battle?	Tostig and Hardrada v Harold Godwinson. Godwinson army won.
10	Why wasn't Godwinson's army as strong at the Battle of Hastings?	A third of his housecarls and experienced soldiers had died at Stamford Bridge. They were tired from marching too.
11	What tactic did William use? What tactic did Godwinson use?	William faked retreat then turned around and kill the fyrd. Godwinson used a shield wall.
12	Why might we consider the Bayeux Tapestry as a bias source of evidence?	Made by the Normans and ignores Harold's victory over the Norwegian king Hardrada and Tostig. Only presents events of Norman success which might be exaggerated to look powerful and victorious.
13	What four things did William do to control England?	Built castles, Harrying the North, Feudal System, Domesday Book.
14	What similarities or differences do you see in our parliament if you trace these origins?	Similarities - the powerful meet to discuss matters affecting the country Differences – Witan did not make the laws, but Parliament does now King chose who was in the Witan, but members of parliament are voted in by the people of the country
15	How could the Witan and Moots be compared to parliament today?	2 meetings were separate for centuries but are now combined to make a Parliament – House of Lords and The House of Commons.