

Year 7) Term 2A: The Norman Conquest

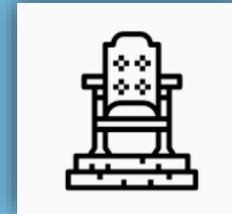
Learning objective: To understand chronology, sources and factors through the history of the Norman Conquest of England.



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What do I need to know about William and his coronation as king?

- The coronation of William of Normandy on Christmas Day 1066.
- How Anglo-Saxon people reacted to the new Norman king.
- What William wanted to do next.



What do I need to know about the Norman Conquest?

- How William created a Feudal System hierarchy.
- How William used the Domesday Book to collect information.
- How William created Motte & Bailey Castles to scare the English.
- How the Bayeux Tapestry controlled history.



What do I need to know about the Harrying of the North?

- Why William decided to launch an attack on the North.
- What tactics William used when attacking the North.
- How England changed under the reign of William of Normandy.



KEYWORDS:

Chronology = events put in the order that they happened.
Sources = evidence from the past.

Interpretations = a person's opinion on a historical event.

Key events/people:

William the Conqueror/William of Normandy
The Feudal System
The Domesday Book
Motte & Bailey Castles
The Bayeux Tapestry
The Harrying of the North

25 December 1066 AD



William is coronated as King of England.

1067-86 AD



Motte & Bailey castles are created and the Domesday Book is completed.

1069 AD



William launches an assault on the Northern rebels: The Harrying of the North begins and ends.

What first-order concepts do I need to learn below?

Hint: remember! A first-order concept is a word historians use to describe facts related to events.

➤ **Facts on William and his coronation:**

- William was coronated as King of England on Christmas Day 1066 in London, after defeating Harold Godwinson in the Battle of Hastings.
- William's first act as king was to construct the Tower of London.
- Whilst William had defeated most of the Anglo-Saxon army, the people of England still posed a threat to his reign. They saw him as a foreign King who had no right to rule them.

➤ **Facts on the Norman Conquest:**

- William decided that he had to control the Anglo-Saxon population. His first act was to set up a hierarchy called the Feudal System – a pyramid chain-of-command system where he was the most important person, followed by land owners (barons), then his knights, and finally the peasants.
- He also asked his knights to find out as much as they could about the people of England. They went around the country collecting information within the Domesday Book.
- William also asked his knights to create motte & bailey castles. These were made out of wood and mud and were incredibly easy to build – usually taking just two weeks. They were designed to scare people.
- William also had the Bayeux Tapestry created to show off his victory against the Anglo-Saxon army.

➤ **Facts on the Harrying of the North:**

- Despite William's efforts to control English people, many Anglo-Saxons in the North were preparing to launch a counter-attack. They united with the leftovers of the Viking army, but William acted quickly.
- He sent his knights into the Northern heartlands and burnt villages, and even poured salt into the earth of farmlands so no crops could grow. Millions died, and many resorted to cannibalism!
- Years later, William's reign came to an end when he died of a burst bladder whilst hunting.

What second-order concepts do I need to learn below?

Hint: remember! A 'second-order concept' is a phrase historians use to describe the history skills that are used in history – like putting events in chronological order, or analysing sources!

- Chronology is putting events in order – such as the Harrying of the North coming after the coronation.
- Evaluating the changes that William made to England throughout the Norman Conquest.



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Look to the past:

Below is a primary source:

A piece of the Norman's Bayeux Tapestry depicting their victory over England.

Below, you can see events from the Harrying of the North. What parts prove that it is to do with this event?



Year 7) Term 2B: The Development of Castles

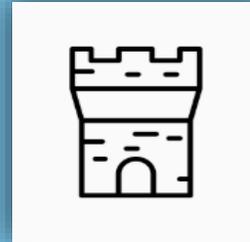
Learning objective: To understand change and continuity by examining how castles developed over time.



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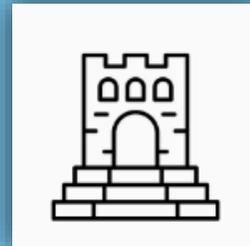
What do I need to know about motte & bailey castles?

- The advantages and disadvantages of the first castle.
- The materials and shape of the castle.
- Why its weaknesses meant it needed to change design.



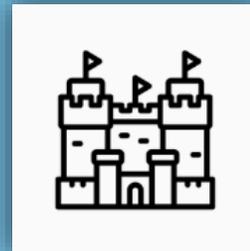
What do I need to know about shell and square keep castles?

- The advantages and disadvantages of the second and third castle.
- The new materials and shape of the castle.
- Why its weaknesses meant it needed to change design.



What do I need to know about concentric castles?

- The advantages and disadvantages of the final castle.
- The new materials and shape of the castle.
- What changed and what stayed the same since the first castle.



KEYWORDS:

Chronology = events put in the order that they happened.

Change = things that are different over time.

Continuity = things that stay the same over time.

Key events/people:

Motte & Bailey castle

Shell keep castle

Square keep castle

Concentric castle

Siege weapons

Defences

1066 AD



The first motte & bailey castle is created

1070-80



The shell keep castle and the square keep castle are created

1085 – 1300



The final concentric castle is created





What first-order concepts do I need to learn below?

Hint: remember! A first-order concept is a word historians use to describe facts related to events.

➤ **Facts on motte and bailey castles:**

- The first type of castle to be created by William the Conqueror was the motte and bailey castle.
- The design of this castle was simple. They were made out of wood and in a 'figure of 8' shape.
- The motte was the mound; the bailey was the settlement at the bottom.
- There were defensive features like drawbridges and a moat. These forced invaders to go through one single point when attacking, but because they were made out of wood, the castles burnt down easily.

➤ **Facts on the shell and square keep castles:**

- Shell keep castles were the answer. They were made of stone and built on motte-type mounds. However, they were so heavy when they were made out of stone that they sank into the ground!
- The design had to change. The castles then became square keeps – which towered high and were built on flat land. New defensive features were added, like arrow slits to shoot out of!

➤ **Facts on the concentric castles:**

- The square design of the square keep castle was a weakness however. If a siege weapon destroyed one wall, the rest would come crumbling down.
- The answer was to create more than one wall around the keep. This made it harder for invaders to take the castle. The inner wall was always taller than the outer wall so people could shoot over the top.
- There were even more defensive features added, like murder-holes that allowed defenders to drop hot oil and shoot arrows above the entrance, barbican gatehouses, and tall, defensive, circular towers with spiral staircases inside.

What second-order concepts do I need to learn below?

Hint: remember! A 'second-order concept' is a phrase historians use to describe the history skills that are used in history – like putting events in chronological order, or analysing sources!

- Change and continuity. Some things stayed the same throughout the design of castles – such as the drawbridge. But there were much more differences – like shape, materials and new defensive features.

Look to the past:

Below is a primary source: a piece of the Bayeux Tapestry created by the Normans. It depicts Anglo-Saxon northern rebels destroying and burning a particular type of castle. Which type of castle is it being burned?

