

Year 7) Term 2A: The Norman Conquest

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

Assessment Skill focus:

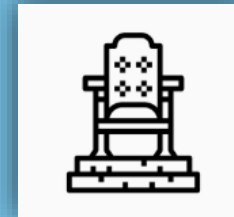
Account = a description narrative.
How do you know interpretation = confirming an a belief using your own knowledge.



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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 persons 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?

