



Turton School

History Department

Name _____

Class _____



Yr 7 History

Homework Book – Topic 1

Anglo-Saxons and the Norman Conquest

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| Homework 1 | To be completed by: |
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What is History?

The word history means ‘the study of the past’. It is the story of people and how they have lived and developed through time. History is a story, but historians use many key skills in the study of it, skills which you will develop whilst at Turton School. History is a very exciting and unique subject to study as it transports you to the past and through it you can understand why events happened today and how to best learn from them.

What was your favourite period of history which you studied at Primary School?

Why did you enjoy this period more than others?

Write down a fact which you can remember from this period in history.

What period in history do you want to learn about whilst at Turton school?

Why do you want to learn about this period in history?

Homework 2

To be completed by:

What is an anachronism?

An anachronism is something like an object or a person that is not in its correct time. An example might be seeing an image of a Roman Soldier using a mobile phone or reading an account of Queen Victoria travelling to Australia on an airplane. (Romans did not have mobile phones and airplanes did not exist during the time of Queen Victoria).

As historians you will need to be able to spot anachronisms and when things do not appear quite right.



Above is a photo of a children outside a work house in Victorian England. Can you identify the five anachronisms in the picture?

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| Homework 3 | To be completed by: |
|-------------------|----------------------------|

Who were the Anglo Saxons?

Britain was part of the Roman Empire from 43 CE to around 410 CE, when the Romans left Britain due to the collapse of their empire. Even before the Romans had left, Germanic tribes from Europe had started to invade and raid Britain.

The Saxons were the first large group from Germany to settle in Britain. They were originally raiders who would come and take valuable resources from Britain. Following the collapse of Rome, they were invited by the native British to come and settle. The agreement was that they would be given land if they promised to help defend against the Picts, a tribe that lived in modern Scotland. With the departure of the Romans, the British needed some help.

The Saxons were followed by two other large groups from Northern Europe; the Jutes and the Angles. The Angles, under the leadership of their king, Vortigern, invaded in 449 CE. From this time until the Norman invasion, Britain was mostly ruled by Angles, Jutes and Saxons. There was no unified England until King Egbert became the first ‘Bretwelda’ or ‘Ruler of the British’ in 827. During this time, the island of Great Britain was divided into individual kingdoms such as Wessex and Mercia.

The Anglo-Saxons, as these Germanic people became known, were important for English culture. They used the Old English language, they developed counties and shires that still exist today, gave names to many places in England and developed laws that still exist today. Although these groups invaded Britain, they did not destroy the culture of previous groups; Roman roads and buildings were still used and many AngloSaxons had Celtic names, suggesting that the groups of invaders were more interested in joining British culture than destroying it.

What was the first reason Saxon’s came to Britain?

What evidence can to find in Britain today so show Anglo-Saxons invaded Britian?

Homework 4

To be completed by:

What is Sutton Hoo?

Sutton Hoo is the site of the grave of an Anglo-Saxon king in Suffolk, England. Discovered in 1939, it is one of the largest and best-preserved archaeological finds of the Saxon period in Europe. It is very important to historians because it tells them a great deal about the wealth and traditions of early Anglo-Saxon kings. It also tells them about Anglo-Saxon craftsmanship, technological developments, and beliefs. Archaeologists have also found several smaller burial sites in the same area.

On the site, archaeologists discovered that a huge wooden ship had been buried there in the 600s ce. The wood had rotted away, but it had left an impression in the soil showing the shape of the ship. The custom of ship burials was common with people from northern Europe. There are similar Viking remains in Denmark and Sweden. A hut had been built in the middle of the ship. Inside it was a coffin and many priceless treasures. The Anglo-Saxons believed that this was the best way for a powerful person to reach the afterlife when he had died.

The treasures found by archaeologists inside the ship included armour, weapons, inlaid ornaments, jewellery, silver and gold tableware, musical instruments, and gold coins. The coins, from the 620s ce, helped to date the burial. The site also contained objects that showed that people in England during Anglo-Saxon times must have traded with the rest of Europe. The objects included a large silver dish made in Byzantium (in what is now Turkey) in about 500 ce and a set of silver bowls from the Mediterranean.

Sutton Hoo may be the burial site of Redwald, a powerful Saxon king who ruled East Anglia and possibly some areas farther north in the late 500s and early 600s. He died in about 616 ce.

Redwald was the first East Anglian king to pay attention to Christianity. He may have converted to the new religion, as all his successors were Christian. The Sutton Hoo burial site has features of both Christianity and the traditional Anglo-Saxon religion of paganism.

Why was Redwald buried with his ship?

Why does Sutton Hoo help historians understand the Anglo-Saxon period?

Who was Edward the Confessor?

Edward's father was King Athelred the Unready and his mother was Emma of Normandy. Edward was the last Saxon King and from the Wessex line. He was brought up in Normandy under the protection of Dukes of Normandy and remained close to his Norman relations as well as influenced by them.

Edward hated the fact that his mother had married a Viking King after his father's death and that she had favoured her new sons over Edward and his brother Alfred. Their relationship was never mended.

Edward married Edith Wessex, the daughter of the allpowerful Earl of Wessex even though Edward blamed the Earl for the death of Alfred, the King's brother. ..Stories tell of King Edward accusing Earl Godwine of being involved in his brother's death; Godwine response was denial and that if he did may he choke on the bread that was on his plate. Mysteriously, Earl Godwine died a few days later.

He was a devoutly religious man and was canonised in 1162. One of Edward's greatest achievements was the construction and founding of Westminster Abbey.

Unable to have children Edward wished to appoint his nephew, Edward the Exile, as his heir. He recalled him to Court in 1051, but unfortunately, he died a few weeks later. His son Edgar Atheling was very young, but King Edward promised to protect him at Court. King Edward allegedly promised the throne to William Duke of Normandy on his death, but Harold Godwine, the Earl of Wessex, claimed he had been given the throne on Edward's deathbed in January 1066

1. What building was founded by Edward and is considered one of his greatest achievements ?

2. Why might the death of Edward the Confessor cause problems for the English throne ?

Who were the Vikings?

Vikings were people from Scandinavia, (Norway, Denmark, Sweden).

They frequently raided Britain in a process known as 'going Viking', moving far from their homes to raid other people and take valuable resources like silver or gold. The first Viking raid happened in 793 off the coast of England, on a little island that was home to a monastery called Lindisfarne. The Christian monks that lived in the monastery had gold, jewels and other riches like beautifully-produced Bibles. The Vikings raided the monastery, killed many unarmed monks and left again. From this raid, the Vikings learnt that England was a place full of riches that seemed to be unguarded!

Viking raids continued for many years until the time of Alfred the Great, the Anglo-Saxon King of Wessex. Alfred defended his kingdom against the Viking king Guthrum, and in 886 divided England into two areas – the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms in the west and an area called the 'Danelaw' in the east; an area controlled by Vikings and their laws. The Vikings were successful raiders and controlled eastern England for nearly 200 years. The two sides of England; the Anglo-Saxon and Viking kingdoms, learnt a lot from each other and their cultures became mixed. People from both sides became friends and started families, mixing the people of England even more.

Between the first raid of 793 and the Norman invasion of 1066, England was fought over between Vikings and AngloSaxons. There would be periods of time where Anglo-Saxon Kings nearly forced Vikings out of England altogether, times when Vikings teamed up with groups like the Cornish, people descended from Celts, to fight the Anglo-Saxons, and even a time when Viking kings ruled all of England under King Canute and his sons. Vikings helped shape what we know as England today. We still use Viking laws and traditions and many places in the east of England have Viking names, like York. The Viking knowledge of ship-building and sailing became important skills for later generations of British people.

What was the reason Vikings first came to Britain?

Why do you think Vikings and Anglo-Saxons fought for control of Britain?

Who were the Normans?

The Normans were a group of people from the Normandy area of northern France. Descended from Vikings that settled in France in the early 10th century, the Normans had a similar culture to the people of England, they themselves being a good mix of Anglo-Saxon and Viking people.

When the Anglo-Saxon king Edward the Confessor died in 1066, there was uncertainty over who should rule. The English nobles elected Harold Godwinson as their new king but Harald Hardrada, a Norwegian Viking king, believed he had a better claim. The two fought a battle in the north of England at Stamford Bridge. Harold Godwinson won, but his army was left weakened and out of position when the Duke of Normandy, a young man named William, attacked England from the south. William defeated Harold at the Battle of Hastings, marking the end of Anglo-Saxon rule over England.

William the Conqueror would be the first of the Norman kings of England. William was a skilled king, if harsh. He built strong castles all across England to keep power in the hands of the Normans and brutally put down rebellions in the north by killing and starving people. The Normans spoke French and most official things were written in Latin, meaning that the Normans had little interest in learning the English language. For the first years of Norman reign, England was very much ruled by Normans who separated themselves from the English people. This changed over time however. The two cultures mixed, giving us a country full of French-inspired architecture and an English language full of French words such as 'castle'. 1066 would be the last time that invasion brought migrants to England. Although some have tried since, Britain has not been invaded by another leader since William. That does not mean that migration has stopped though; factors other than invasion have influenced many people to come to Britain since.

Why did William, Duke of Normandy, invade Britain?

What evidence exists today to show the Norman's invaded Britain?

Homework 8

To be completed by:

An extract from the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle. Written following the death of King William.

King William was greater and stronger than all the kings before him. He was kind to the good monks who served God. During his reign, the great Cathedral of Canterbury was built and so were many others. He was cruel to anyone who disobeyed him, put lords and even his own brother in prison. He kept good order in the country. A man with a bag of gold could travel unharmed right through the country. No man dare kill another.

The king raised castles and crushed the poor.
He took gold and silver and so much more.
There was no fairness in his deeds
He simply fed his deepest greed.
He loved to hunt stag and boar
He took land so from others, making it the law.
The eyes of poachers who steal from their Lord.
Must be cut out with the point of a sword.

1. Name two things which William did that the Monks thought were successful?

2. Name two things which William did which the Monks thought were cruel?

Homework 9

To be completed by:

Who was Matilda of Flanders?

Matilda of Flanders (c. 1031 - November 2, 1083) was the wife of William I of England. She was Duchess of Normandy and Queen of England.

Matilda was the daughter of Baldwin V of Flanders and Adela of France, who was the daughter of king Robert II of France.[Historians think she was born about 1031. Care was given to her education so she would become known for her learning as much as for her great beauty.

Matilda was married to William probably between 1051 and 1052. Ever since he became duke of Normandy as a boy, William had to fight to keep Normandy. When William was born his mother and father were not married so he had the stigma of being a bastard. By marrying Matilda, who was the niece of the king of France, William gained respect in Europe. This was because Matilda was related to many European rulers.

When William was getting ready to attack England, Matilda had a ship built for him called the Mora. While William was in England and after he became King of England in 1066, Matilda stayed behind to rule Normandy while William was away.

1. Why do you think it was important for Matilda to get a good education? You should think about what roles Matilda may have been asked to fill later in her life.

2. Why do you think William left Matilda to control his territory in France whilst he was fighting in England?

3. What type of a person do you think Matilda was? Do you think she was typical of all women from this period?

Research Task – Weapons of the Norman Conquest

To become a good historian you will need to be able to conduct your own research and wider reading (at A level student are expected to carry out 5 hrs of wider reading a week – just for History!).

You do not need to conduct 6 hrs reading but for your first research task you are to visit this English Heritage website and read about the weapons from the Norman Conquest. You can visit other web sites too but you must visit this English Heritage one.



Visit this web site (you can scan the QR code on your phone):

[The Weaponry of 1066 | English Heritage \(english-heritage.org.uk\)](https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/what-to-see/1066-weaponry)

1. Which weapon do you think would be most effective during the Battle of Hastings?

(Effective means something is successful and does its job well).

2. Why do you think this weapon was most effective?

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| Homework 11 | To be completed by: |
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| Homework 11 | To be completed by: |
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This puzzle is a word search puzzle that has a hidden message in it.

First find all the words in the list.

Words can go in any direction and share letters as well as cross over each other.

Once you find all the words. Copy the unused letters starting in the top left corner into the blanks to reveal the hidden message

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | G | M | A | W | S | G | N | I | Y | R | R | A | H | C |
| L | O | C | O | R | D | T | Y | E | L | I | A | B | I | O |
| T | D | L | A | T | C | O | H | L | I | A | M | H | W | N |
| T | W | O | O | V | T | H | M | G | D | R | O | W | S | Q |
| A | I | N | L | N | A | E | E | E | I | U | T | H | N | U |
| B | N | S | O | G | E | L | Y | R | S | N | B | A | O | E |
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| O | O | O | F | H | M | A | C | Y | S | A | A | R | N | T |
| S | N | R | T | I | N | A | D | N | G | N | Y | Y | O | S |
| Q | G | A | D | C | R | U | N | L | O | F | E | E | L | O |
| V | E | B | E | L | T | S | A | C | E | X | T | V | Y | R |
| C | A | T | H | E | D | R | A | L | H | I | A | H | E | Y |
| F | E | U | D | A | L | D | L | O | R | A | H | S | N | P |
| Z | S | C | Y | Q | V | R | J | C | R | F | I | S | A | W |
| Y | N | S | C | I | M | M | P | F | K | Q | U | F | T | C |

| | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|
| Anglo | Archers | Bailey |
| Barons | Battle | Castle |
| Cathedral | Cavalry | Conquest |
| Domesday | Feudal | Fyrd |
| Godwinson | Harold | Harrying |
| Housecarl | Knights | London |
| Motte | Norman | Pevensey |
| Saxon | Shield | Sword |

What is the Bayeux Tapestry?

The Bayeux Tapestry tells the story, in pictures, of the events leading up to and including the Battle of Hastings on October 14, 1066. The story is told from the Norman point of view. There is no English equivalent so it is very difficult to confirm or dispute some of the details on the tapestry.

It is called the Bayeux Tapestry because it has been kept at Bayeux in France probably ever since it was made. King William's half-brother Odo (Bishop of Bayeux) ordered a tapestry to be made in honour of William's victory at the Battle of Hastings.

The Bayeux Tapestry is about 20 inches tall and 231 feet long (50cm tall and 70 metres long). It is about the length of 3 swimming pools! It is the longest piece of embroidery in the world.

It is thought that the tapestry was made in Canterbury, Kent, where there was a famous school of tapestry who used a style of work very similar to that found on the tapestry itself. Eight colours were used in the making of the Bayeux Tapestry. The five main colours are blue-green, terracotta, light-green, buff and grey-blue. There are also places where very dark blue, yellow and a dark green have been used.

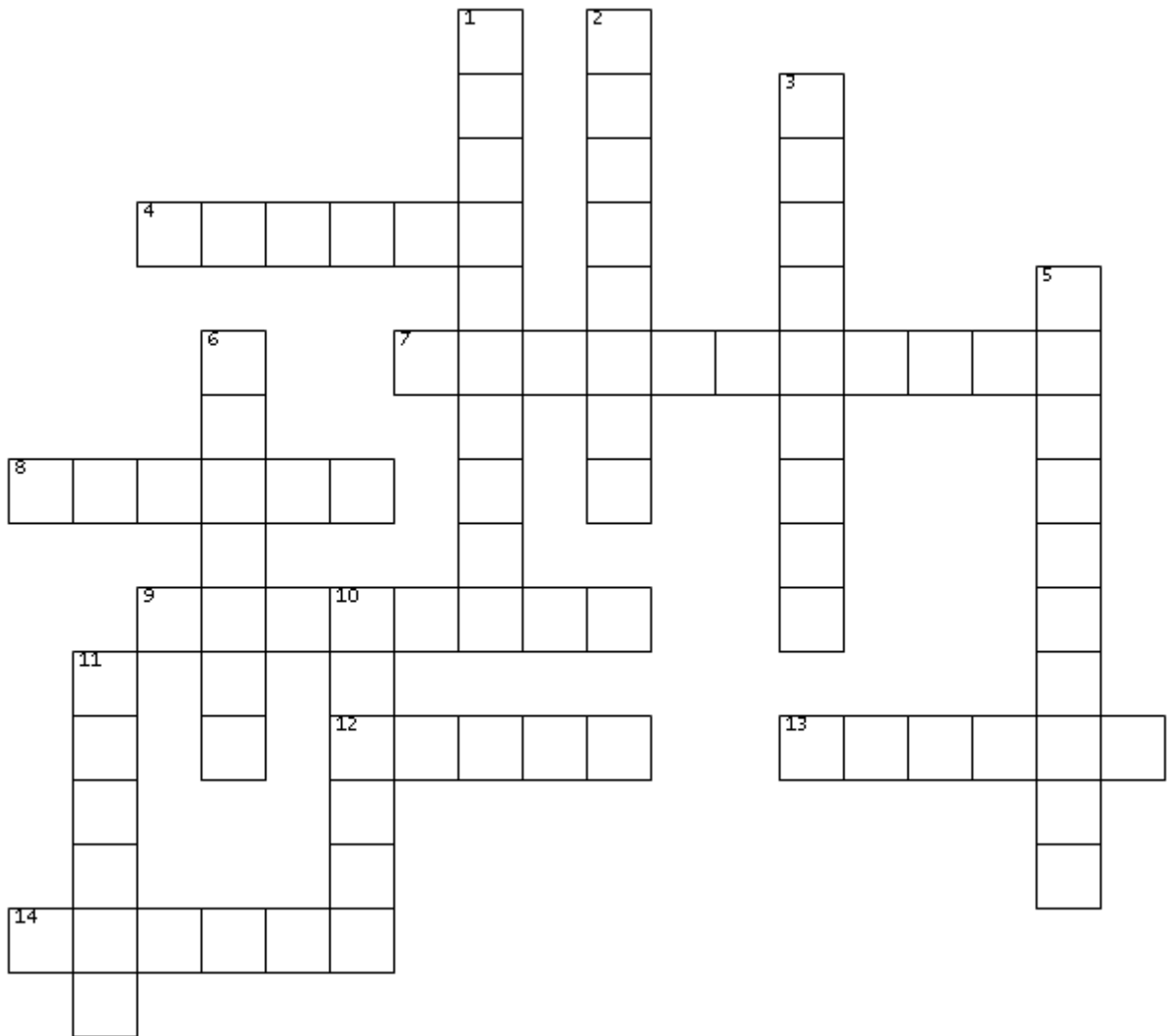
The Bayeux Tapestry is now on permanent public display in the Museum of Queen Matilda, in the Norman city of Bayeux, in Normandy, France. The writing on the tapestry is in Latin. It is written in Latin because that was the main written language during the Middle Ages.

1. What does the Bayeux Tapestry depict?

2. Why might the Bayeux Tapestry not be accurate?

Homework 13

To be completed by:



ACROSS

4. What would Knights/Cavalry ride into battle?
7. Which region of Europe did the Vikings come from?
8. Motte and Bailey is a type of what?
9. Where did William land when he invaded England in 1066?
12. What name is was given to meeting of important bishops and nobles who advised the King on all important decisions.
13. Who was the ruler of northern England during Anglo-Saxon times?
14. Who was crowned King of England on 6 January 1066?

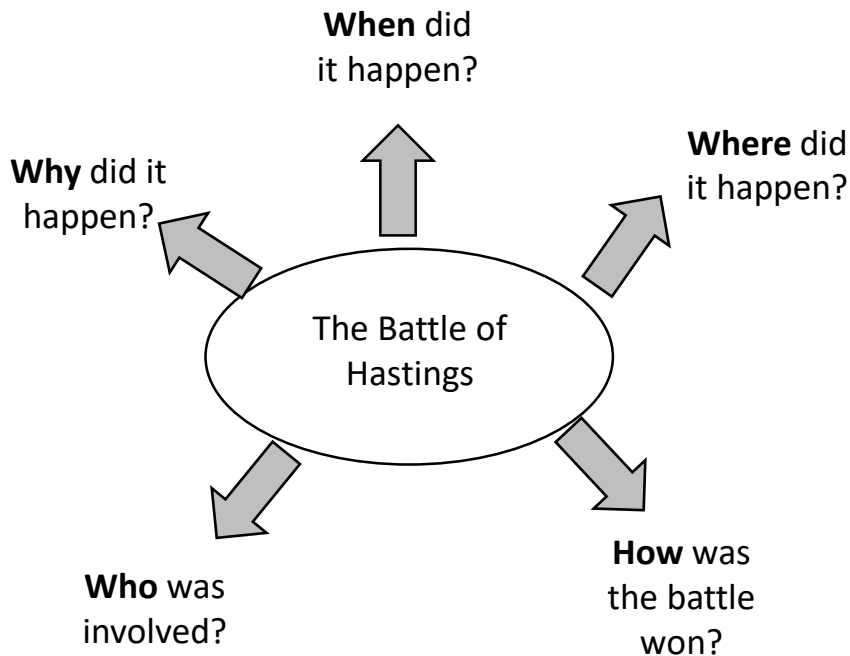
DOWN

1. What name was given to describe the backbone of Harold's army? They were professional, well paid and fully equipped soldiers.
2. Where did Edward the Confessors mother come from?
3. What word describes a huge official account of the period, often written by monks?
5. What large religious buildings did William introduce to England?
6. What did William's knights pretend to do as a way to trick Harold's soldiers?
10. Which king died on 5th January 1066?
11. What system did William use to reward those loyal to him by giving them land which they passed on to others below them?

Battle of Hastings Revision Task

A good student of history will need to learn how to revise and review material taught in class. For this week's homework create a mind map about the Battle of Hastings. A good mind map will have colours and pictures to make the mind map interesting and easy to remember.

Use the mind map below as your starting point. There are some strands added to help you. There are also some great videos on YouTube to help you with your mind map technique.



Wider Activity

Revision Quiz

A good historian (or student of any subject) needs to know the key information and facts about their subject. In history you will be expected remember information such as dates and names along with the key events. This will allow you to explain your answers fully when you are assessed. One tool to help you do this is to use flash cards and revision quizzes. A set of electronic flash cards has been created for you to access on the website 'Quizlet'.



Scan the QR code using your phone to be taken directly to the flashcards. These can be used as a revision aid and also to create your own quizzes about the period.

Additional websites:

There are a number of useful websites to visit to help build up your knowledge about this period:

BBC Bitesize Anglo-Saxons: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zp6xsbk>

BBC Birtsize Vikings: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/znt6fg8>

BBC Bitesize Normans: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zshtyrd>

English Hertilage Website – Norman Conquest: <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/1066-and-the-norman-conquest/>

Wider reading

There are many great reading books covering this period, specifically designed for you to understand the period and also see it from a different point of view.

I Was There... 1066 tells the thrilling story of a young page boy at the heart of the Battle of Hastings. Edwin risks everything to infiltrate the Norman army and find out William of Normany's plans for King Harold. Brilliantly reimagined, readers will love this vivid first-hand account of the last successful military invasion of England. You can get a free electronic copy of this from Bolton Library <https://bolton.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/ENQ/WPAC/BIBENQ?SETLVL=&BRN=2980898>

Arthur: The Seeing Stone by Kevin Crossley-Holland. Growing up in a medieval manor and dreaming of becoming a knight, Arthur receives a magical stone. From this, his life changes forever in ways he could never have imagined. Kevin Crossley-Holland is not deemed the father of historical and mythological fiction for nothing and it's not difficult to see why this title is bestowed upon him!