



# Knowledge Organiser - Topic Two: The Norman Conquest

## Key Events

1	<b>5<sup>th</sup> January 1066</b> – Edward the Confessor dies, leaving no heir.
2	<b>6<sup>th</sup> January 1066</b> - Harold Godwinson is crowned King of England
3	<b>20 September 1066</b> - Harald Hardrada, a Viking claiming the English throne invades England with more than 10,000 men in 200 longships
4	<b>25 September 1066</b> Harold Godwinson, defeats and kills Harald Hardrada at the <b>Battle of Stamford Bridge</b> but it wears down Harold's army.
5	<b>27<sup>th</sup> September 1066</b> - William Duke of Normandy, invade the south of England. He builds a castle and the Normans pillage and burn the south
6	<b>14 October 1066 – The Battle of Hastings.</b> Harold marches south to meet William, where they battle at Hastings.
7	<b>25<sup>th</sup> December 1066</b> - William is crowned king of England at Westminster Abbey.
8	<b>1068</b> – William begins the building of castles across England in Warwick, York, Nottingham and Cambridge
9	<b>1069-70</b> – Rebellions in the North of England which leads to the <b>Harrying of the North</b> where William devastates the north in an effort to stop the rebellions, over 100,000 die and large areas of land are destroyed.
10	<b>1085</b> – William orders the Domesday Book survey of England
11	<b>1086</b> – William I of England dies

## Key People

12.	<b>Harold Godwinson</b>	English, Earl of Wessex, a powerful leader of England. His sister was married to Edward the Confessor.
13.	<b>William of Normandy</b>	A Norman and Duke of Normandy in France, cousin of Edward the Confessor. An experienced leader and fighter.
14.	<b>Harald Hardrada</b>	A Viking, King of Norway. Most feared warrior in Europe, claims he was promised the throne.

## Summary

15.	<b>The Norman Conquest</b> – a period between 1066-88, where William of Normandy and his Normans invade, conquer and rule England.
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## Key Words

16.	<b>Anglo-Saxon</b>	People who settled in Britain after the Romans left and lived in England when the Normans invaded.
17.	<b>Homage or Oath</b>	To promise to give allegiance to someone (e.g. King) publically.
18.	<b>Feudal System</b>	The social structure of Medieval England that William used to keep control and loyalty of his people.
29.	<b>Villein</b>	Peasants at the bottom of the Feudal System
20.	<b>Noble</b>	Barons, Earls or other rich land owners who pledge their loyalty to William in the Feudal System
21.	<b>Knight</b>	A soldier who serves a noble, they usually ride horses and wear armour. Ruled over the villeins
22.	<b>Cavalry</b>	A soldier mounted on a horse
23.	<b>Motte and Bailey</b>	The first castle created by William. It was made out of wood and had a higher Motte part and a low Bailey part.
24.	<b>Archbishop of Canterbury</b>	In charge of running the Catholic Church in England overall, answered to the Pope.
25.	<b>Stone Keep</b>	Castle made out of stone with towers for defence
26.	<b>Pillage</b>	To steal from a place during war.
27.	<b>Domesday Book</b>	'The Great Survey' which told William the value, ownership and resources owned in England in 1085. It allowed him to calculate how much taxes he could charge.
28.	<b>Tax</b>	Compulsory money paid to the king or government.
29.	<b>Rebellion</b>	An act of resistance to the government or King