

'Arrogant, warlike and very pleased with themselves': What were the Normans really like?

Multiple choice questions: /5

1: Which of the following statements is true of William?
 A) He was born into a powerful family in England, who owned lots of land.
 B) He became an earl in around 1045.
 C) He became a duke at the age of around 7, when his father died on a trip to Jerusalem.

2: In what way does the Bayeux Tapestry suggest Harold died?
 A) Being hit in the eye with an arrow.
 B) Being attacked by a group of Norman knights.
 C) Being stabbed in the back as he ran away.

3: Who led the rebellion against William in 1075?
 A) Eadric the Wild.
 B) Ralph, one of William's Normans.
 C) Queen Matilda.

4: How was Gytha Thorkelsdottir connected to the royal family?
 A) She was the mother of Harold Godwinson.
 B) She was the wife of Edward the Confessor.
 C) She was married to the King of Scotland.

5: Which of the following statements is true?
 A) By the end of his reign, William had restored most Anglo-Saxon earls to positions of power.
 B) By the end of his reign, most of the land and roles formerly held by Anglo-Saxons had been given to Normans.
 C) Most of the land in England had been given to the Church by 1087.

Put the key events in chronological order: /5

William defeated Harold Godwinson at Hastings.

The Assembly at Salisbury was held.

William faced his first rebellion by an Anglo-Saxon.

William organised the Harrying of the North.

Edward the Confessor died; Harold became king.

Match up the key terms with their definitions: /5

Earl	Carrying out violent attacks against a group.
Archbishop	Record of all the land in England.
Knight	Important and wealthy man who ruled over a part of England.
Harrying	High-ranking member of the Church.
Domesday Book	Someone who served their leader in battle.

Complete these activities, using brief sentences: /5

1: Describe two aspects of the Battle of Hastings that contemporary accounts disagree about:

2: Describe two ways in which William consolidated control in England:

3: Why do some historians consider William a 'chivalrous' king?

4: Describe two ways in which the lives of Anglo-Saxons got worse after 1066:

5: Describe two aspects of life that didn't change much after 1066:

'Arrogant, warlike and very pleased with themselves': What were the Normans really like?

Multiple choice questions: /5

1: Which of the following statements is true of William?
 A) He was born into a powerful family in England, who owned lots of land.
 B) He became an earl in around 1045.
 C) He became a duke at the age of around 7, when his father died on a trip to Jerusalem.

2: In what way does the Bayeux Tapestry suggest Harold died?
 A) Being hit in the eye with an arrow.
 B) Being attacked by a group of Norman knights.
 C) Being stabbed in the back as he ran away.

3: Who led the rebellion against William in 1075?
 A) Eadric the Wild.
 B) Ralph, one of William's Normans.
 C) Queen Matilda.

4: How was Gytha Thorkelsdottir connected to the royal family?
 A) She was the mother of Harold Godwinson.
 B) She was the wife of Edward the Confessor.
 C) She was married to the King of Scotland.

5: Which of the following statements is true?
 A) By the end of his reign, William had restored most Anglo-Saxon earls to positions of power.
 B) By the end of his reign, most of the land and roles formerly held by Anglo-Saxons had been given to Normans.
 C) Most of the land in England had been given to the Church by 1087.

Put the key events in chronological order: /5

William defeated Harold Godwinson at Hastings.	2 (Oct 1066)
The Assembly at Salisbury was held.	5 (1086)
William faced his first rebellion by an Anglo-Saxon.	3 (1068)
William organised the Harrying of the North.	4 (1069-70)
Edward the Confessor died; Harold became king.	1 (Jan 1066)

Match up the key terms with their definitions: /5

Earl	Carrying out violent attacks against a group of people.
Archbishop	Record of all the land in England.
Knight	Important and wealthy man who ruled over a part of England.
Harrying	High-ranking member of the Church.
Domesday Book	Someone who served their leader in battle.

Complete these activities, using brief sentences: /5

1: Describe two aspects of the Battle of Hastings that contemporary accounts disagree about:	<i>The size of the two armies, and the types of soldiers they had within them (unclear whether both sides had archers); whether the fake retreat was a pre-planned tactic; how Harold Godwinson was killed.</i>
2: Describe two ways in which William consolidated control in England:	<i>He built castles to help defend against attacks; he paid off Viking invaders; he forgave some Anglo-Saxon rebels and punished others; he put on great displays of wealth and power (like his coronation).</i>
3: Why do some historians consider William a 'chivalrous' king?	<i>Because he stopped executing rebels as punishment; because some think that relations between the Anglo-Saxons and Normans gradually improved; because he was devoted to his religion.</i>
4: Describe two ways in which the lives of Anglo-Saxons got worse after 1066:	<i>Women's lives often worsened (they lost land ownership rights, and some joined nunneries to escape marrying Normans); Anglo-Saxon landowners lost their land.</i>
5: Describe two aspects of life that didn't change much after 1066:	<i>Ordinary people continued to speak English, despite French being the official language of court and government; most people still spent their days out in the fields, farming the land.</i>