

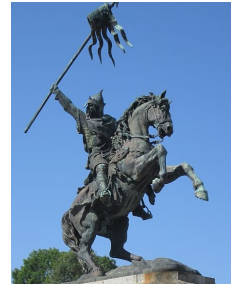


Year: 5P & 5G

# The Normans

## Background Information

This term, our topic is based on the topic of The Normans. Through this subject, we will learn about The Norman Conquest and the changes it brought to society and settlements in Britain. We will explore the key changes through William the Conqueror's leadership through: The Feudal System; trial and punishment; land ownership including the Domesday Book and lastly trade. Furthermore, we will be using key historical concepts to understand this period of history. For example, chronology, why there are different accounts in history, changes to the period and cause and consequence of key events.



## Key Vocabulary

Word	Meaning
Chronology	The arrangements of events in time order
The Normans	The Normans came from France and invaded England in 1066. The Normans ruled for 300 years.
Primogeniture	The right of succession and inheritance going to firstborn son.
Feudal System	A feudal system (also known as feudalism) is a type of social and political system in which landholders provide land to tenants in exchange for their loyalty and service.
Thegn	They were Nobles, but less powerful than Earls.
Ceorls	Peasants that were free to go and work for different lords.

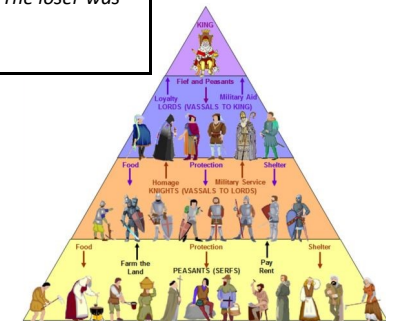
## Killer Facts!

### Science:

- Unsupported objects fall to Earth because of the force of gravity between Earth and falling objects.
- Some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.

### History

- The Normans invaded in 1066
- William tried to learn English but never managed to so the Norman Aristocracy only spoke French.
- The Bayeux Tapestry shows the audience witnessing Harold's coronation watching Halley's Comet, which is depicted in the sky as an omen of Harold's fate.
- Medieval England was quite barbaric and there were several different trials to see if you were guilty:
  - ⇒ A suspected person was strapped to a chair and thrown into a lake. If they sank they were innocent; if they floated they were guilty, and then they were executed.
  - ⇒ A person would put their arm into a cauldron of boiling water or hold a red hot iron bar and walk 3 paces. The wound was bandaged and if it started to heal after 3 days the person was innocent; if it did not they were guilty.
  - ⇒ If a nobleman was accused of a crime he would fight his accuser and whoever won the fight was thought to be right. The loser was wrong and was also usually dead by the end of the fight.



## Timeline

January 1066	September 1066	October 1066	December 1066	1086	9th September 1087	26th September 1087	1088
Edward Confessor dies. Harold II became king.	The Battle of Stamford Bridge	Battle of Hastings	William the Conqueror is crowned.	The Domesday Book is compiled.	William the Conqueror dies.	William Rufus becomes William II of England	Rebels lead by Odo of Bayeux are defeated.