

History - Year 7 - Autumn 2 - 1066 - Knowledge Organiser

Key term	Definition
Heir	A person who is next in line to be king or queen
Contender	Someone who is trying to become king
Succession	The process of who takes over the throne after a king dies.
Feigned	Pretended or faked
Retreat	To move back or run away from a fight
Infantry	Soldiers who fight on foot
Cavalry	Soldiers who fight on horses
Fyrd	. Part-time soldiers in Anglo-Saxon England (ordinary people called to fight)
Berserker	A fierce Viking warrior who fought wildly and without fear
Confessor	A title for Edward the Confessor, meaning a religious king who lived a holy life.

Revision



Local History



Edward the Confessor

Edward ruled from 1042-1066. He had no heir and this led to a succession crisis for the throne of England

Battle of Stamford Bridge

Harold marched north quickly and surprised Hadrada's army at Stamford Bridge.
A Viking berserker held the bridge alone, slowing the English advance. Heavy fighting followed the English crossing the bridge. Harald Hadrada was killed, ending the invasion.

Battle of Hastings (Preparation)

Harold

- ✓ - 2500 housecarls
- ✓ - 6000 Fyrds

X - His army travelled 280 miles in 9 days.
X - Lost men at Stamford Bridge

William

- ✓ - 1500 archers
- ✓ - 1500 cavalry
- ✓ - Well equipped soldier

X - Archers had no armour.
X - No knowledge of the Battlefield.

Harold Godwinson

Born: England

Why?: Chosen by nobles to become King.

Strengths:

Experienced soldier
Knows the land



Harald Hadrada

Born: Norway

Why?: An old agreement claimed he had the right.

Strengths:

Fearsome warrior
Powerful Viking army



Support in the North

William of Normandy

Born: Normandy (Modern day France)

Why?: Claimed Edward had promised him the throne.

Strengths:

Pope's blessing
Military tactics



Battle of Hastings (Battle)

Morning, 14 October 1066: Harold sets up his army on Senlac Hill in a strong **shield wall**.

Early battle: Norman archers and infantry attack but struggle to break the shield wall
Midday: Norman cavalry charge, but many are pushed back by the English line

Fake retreat: Some Norman soldiers pretend to flee, drawing parts of the English army out of the shield wall

Late afternoon: Repeated attacks weaken the English position and Harold is killed

