

# Y7: How did Immigrants and Invaders change life in Britain?

## The Stone Age 5,000 BC

- Hunter-gatherers who lived by gathering food and fruit.
- About 5000 years ago they began to farm. They built more homes and cleared land.

## The Bronze Age 2,500 BC

- They knew how to make tools and weapons from bronze.
- They brought alcohol to Britain
- Wealthy women wore jewellery, pinned their hair up with pins and started to wear woollen clothes.
- Tamed wild horses for riding

## Key words

Anglo-Saxons	People who lived in England before the Norman Conquest
Invader	Someone who enters a place to take land
Settler	Someone who moves to a place to live
Interpretation	Someone's view of the past, made by someone after the events
Danelaw	From the East of England and from London to Chester, they followed Viking laws and customs.

## The Romans AD 43

- Built main roads and key towns
- Language and laws can be traced back to the Romans
- Used coins, calendars, glass and bricks
- Introduced new foods

## The Celts 500BC

- Farmed the land.
- Wore colourful cloaks
- Started a system of law and order

## The Vikings 739 AD

- Came from Denmark, Norway and Sweden
- First arrived in 793 AD
- Attacked the British coast for 250 years, then started to settled
- In AD874 Alfred the Great managed to beat the Vikings and gave the Vikings their own Kingdom – the **Danelaw**  
A king called Cnut even became king of England in 1016.

## The Saxons 400 AD

- Gave us the days of the Week
- New words
- Excellent farmers
- Local leaders became local kings





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## Problem in 1066

King Edward (the Confessor- because he was religious) was married but had no children. It was not clear who Edward wanted to be king after him. He died in 1066 with no **heir**.

The question was who should become king?

### Harald Hardrada

King of Norway and most feared warrior in Europe. Supported by Harold Godwinson's brother, Tostig

### Harold Godwinson

Earl of Wessex, one of the most powerful men in England. Brother-in-law of King Edward. The **Witan** wanted Harold to be the next king

### William of Normandy

Duke of Normandy (France). He was a soldier and Edward's cousin. Edward has supposedly promised that William should be the next king



## Key words

Heir	The next in line to the throne
Witan	The King's Council
Normans	People from Normandy
Fyrd	Local farmers who fought for Harold Godwinson
Cavalry	William's soldiers who fought on horses
Feudal system	Social structure of Medieval England
Baron	Noble land owner
Peasant	Bottom of the feudal system

## The Battle of Stamford Bridge

As Harold Godwinson is the only one in England he declares himself king. Harald Hardrada and Tostig attack the North of England with 500 ships and 10,000 men. Harold Godwinson gathers the fyrd and marches north. 8,000 Vikings have left their armour on their ships and were taken by surprise. Hardrada was killed by an arrow in the throat. Tostig and 7,000 Vikings are killed.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> September William of Normandy landed on the south coast.

## Why did William win the Battle of Hastings?

### William's leadership

- William was very brave and led his men well
- He showed his face in battle to keep his soldiers from running away

### William's luck

- The weather changed when Harold was still in the north
- At a key moment in the battle Harold was killed

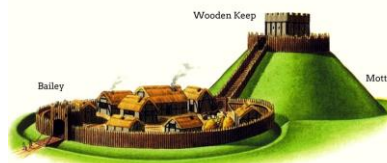
### Harold's mistakes

- The Saxons left the shield wall to chase to Normans
- Harold's army was tired

## How did William keep control?

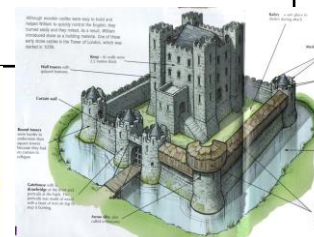
### Castles

Built quickly and made out of wood. Helped to stop rebellions. Over time these were replaced with **stone keep castles** and eventually **concentric castles** which had no corners. By 1500 they were no longer needed for defence and became **fortified manor houses**



### Domesday Book

William needed to find out how much land there was and how much it was worth so he could tax it. He sent out commissioners to every part of England to find this out.



### Feudal System

William took land from the English and gave it to his supporters instead. The Feudal system forced the English to give William their taxes and promises of loyalty in return for land.

