7.4 Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, 1066: The Norman Invasion and the Battle of Hastings

EDEXCEL 1HI0 · about 225 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Write in full sentences for the 12-mark and 16-mark questions.

1 State one weapon used by the English at Hastings.

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 Name the embroidered cloth, made soon after the Conquest, that shows the story of the battle of Hastings.

(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)

3 Name the type of fortification that William's men built from timber at Hastings before the battle.

(Total for Question 3 is 1 mark)

4 Name the weapon carried by Norman knights, used for charging.

(Total for Question 4 is 1 mark)

5 Name the dragon emblem flown by the English army at Hastings.

(Total for Question 5 is 1 mark)

6 Name the monastic house William founded near Hastings on the site of the battle.

(Total for Question 6 is 1 mark)

7 Describe one feature of the English position on Senlac Hill.

(Total for Question 7 is 2 marks)

8 State two reasons why William's invasion was delayed in the late summer of 1066.

(Total for Question 8 is 2 marks)

9 State two features of Pevensey's defences in 1066.

(Total for Question 9 is 2 marks)

10 Describe two features of the English army at Hastings.

(Total for Question 10 is 4 marks)

11 Describe two features of the outcome of the battle of Hastings for the English.

(Total for Question 11 is 4 marks)

12 Describe two features of Bishop Odo's role at Hastings.

(Total for Question 12 is 4 marks)

13 Describe two features of the Norman archers at Hastings.

(Total for Question 13 is 4 marks)

14 Describe two features of the English fleet in the summer of 1066.

(Total for Question 14 is 4 marks)

15 Describe two features of Harold's march south in 1066.

(Total for Question 15 is 4 marks)

16 Describe two features of the three divisions of William's army.

(Total for Question 16 is 4 marks)

17 Describe two features of the Breton flight in the battle of Hastings.

(Total for Question 17 is 4 marks)

18 Name the English battle formation in which soldiers locked their shields together on the hill.

(Total for Question 18 is 1 mark)

19 Describe two features of the weaknesses of the English shield wall.

(Total for Question 19 is 4 marks)

20 Describe two features of the Norman use of cavalry at Hastings.

(Total for Question 20 is 4 marks)

21 Describe two features of how Harold died, as accounts report it.

(Total for Question 21 is 4 marks)

22 Explain why Harold's army held its position on Senlac Hill for much of the day.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the high ground at Senlac
- the discipline of the shield wall

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 22 is 12 marks)

23 Explain why Harold decided to fight William at Senlac Hill on 14 October 1066.

You may use the following in your answer:
- William's ravaging of Sussex
- the strength of the high ground

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 23 is 12 marks)

24 Explain why the Norman victory at Hastings left England open to conquest.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the death of Harold and his brothers
- the loss of housecarls and thegns

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 24 is 12 marks)

25 Explain why Harold was unable to prevent William's landing in 1066.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the timing of the English army's movements
- the fleet along the south coast

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 25 is 12 marks)

26 Explain why William's army was able to recover after the Breton flight.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the rumour of William's death
- the discipline of the Norman centre

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 26 is 12 marks)

27 Explain why the English army did not win at Hastings despite its strong position.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the high ground at Senlac
- the Norman knights

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 27 is 12 marks)

28 'The loss of discipline by the English fyrd was the main reason the English line broke at Hastings.' How far do you agree? Explain your answer.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the English pursuit of retreating Normans
- the Norman archers and cavalry

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 28 is 16 marks)

29 'Good fortune, rather than skill, decided the outcome at Hastings.' How far do you agree? Explain your answer.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the timing of the attacks
- the death of Harold

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 29 is 16 marks)

30 'The death of Harold was the decisive turning point at Hastings.' How far do you agree? Explain your answer.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the accounts of Harold's death
- the English shield wall

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 30 is 16 marks)

31 'The ground at Senlac Hill gave the English a real chance of victory.' How far do you agree? Explain your answer.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the high ground and narrow front
- the Norman archers and cavalry

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 31 is 16 marks)

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32 Name the king of England who was killed in the battle of Hastings.

(Total for Question 32 is 1 mark)

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33 Name William's half-brother, a bishop who fought in the Norman army at Hastings.

(Total for Question 33 is 1 mark)

Mark scheme · 7.4 Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, 1066: The Norman Invasion and the Battle of Hastings

Question 1

any one of: axes; spears; javelins; swords; clubs; stones; or any other valid weapon **B1**

Answer: axes

Question 2

any one of: Bayeux Tapestry; the Tapestry **B1**

Answer: Bayeux Tapestry

Question 3

any one of: castle; wooden castle; motte and bailey; fort **B1**

Answer: castle

Question 4

any one of: lance; lances; spear **B1**

Answer: lance

Question 5

any one of: Dragon of Wessex; the Wessex dragon; the dragon of Wessex; Wessex dragon **B1**

Answer: Dragon of Wessex

Question 6

Battle Abbey **B1**

Answer: Battle Abbey

Question 7

a valid feature of the English position on Senlac Hill, for example: the line was drawn up along a narrow ridge; the ground was high with steep slopes; the Normans had to attack uphill **B1**

supporting detail developing THAT feature, for example: steep slopes slowed the Norman horses; the narrow front let the English pack the shield wall tightly; marshy ground at the foot of the hill hindered the cavalry **B1**

Answer: narrow ridge with steep slopes; marshy ground at the foot

Question 8

first valid point. Credit ANY accurate, relevant point, for example: the wind was against the fleet at Dives; storms damaged some ships, so the fleet moved along the coast to Saint-Valery **B1**

second, different valid point (any accurate, relevant point; two valid points from the same category score 2) **B1**

Answer: contrary wind; storm damage and move to Saint-Valery

Question 9

first valid point. Credit ANY accurate, relevant point, for example: the site had old Roman walls that gave a ready-made defensive enclosure; a prefabricated wooden fort was reportedly brought over in sections **B1**

second, different valid point (any accurate, relevant point; two valid points from the same category score 2) **B1**

Answer: Roman walls; prefabricated fort (reported)

Question 10

first valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature; examples: the army fought mainly on foot in a close formation; the army was built around the shield wall; it included the fyrd as well as professional troops; it had few horsemen compared with the Normans) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that first feature **B1**

second, different valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that second feature **B1**

Answer: on foot; shield wall; fyrd; few horsemen

Question 11

first valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature; examples: Harold was killed in the battle; Gyrth and Leofwine were also killed; the English army broke up after the battle; the Normans did not immediately take London) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that first feature **B1**

second, different valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that second feature **B1**

Answer: Harold killed; brothers killed; army broke up; London not taken immediately

Question 12

first valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature; examples: Odo was William's half-brother and bishop of Bayeux; Odo fought with the Norman army at Hastings; Odo is shown in the Bayeux Tapestry rallying young soldiers with a club; Odo's presence shows the Church's backing for the invasion) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that first feature **B1**

second, different valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that second feature **B1**

Answer: half-brother; fought; rallied troops; Church backing

Question 13

first valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature; examples: Norman archers shot at the English line from below the hill; the archers began the attack before the cavalry and infantry; the English shields reduced the effect of the first volleys; the English had few archers to reply) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that first feature **B1**

second, different valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that second feature **B1**

Answer: shot from below; opened the attack; shields reduced effect; few English archers

Question 14

first valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature; examples: Harold gathered a large fleet to guard the south coast against invasion; the fleet and army were stood down in early September when supplies ran short; some ships were taken to London, and many were lost on the way, according to the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle; the English fleet could not stop William's landing in late September) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that first feature **B1**

second, different valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that second feature **B1**

Answer: fleet guarded south coast; stood down; ships to London; could not stop landing

Question 15

first valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature; examples: Harold's army was weakened by losses and tiredness after Stamford Bridge; Harold marched his army south quickly; Harold stopped in London to gather more men; Harold chose to march on rather than wait for all his forces) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that first feature **B1**

second, different valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that second feature **B1**

Answer: tired army; quick march; London; did not wait

Question 16

first valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature; examples: the army was formed in three divisions; the Bretons formed the left wing; the Normans under William formed the centre; troops from France and Flanders formed the right wing) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that first feature **B1**

second, different valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that second feature **B1**

Answer: three divisions; Bretons left; Normans centre; French and Flemish right

Question 17

first valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature; examples: the Breton troops on the left wing broke and fled; rumours spread that William had been killed; Norman sources claim William rode among his men to show he was alive; the flight put the Norman army in danger) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that first feature **B1**

second, different valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that second feature **B1**

Answer: Breton flight; rumour of William's death; Norman sources claim; danger

Question 18

any one of: shield wall; shieldwall **B1**

Answer: shield wall

Question 19

first valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature; examples: the English had few horsemen to counter the Norman knights; the English had few archers to reply to Norman archery; a shield wall that lost men in repeated attacks could be broken; the wall relied on discipline that could fail under pressure) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that first feature **B1**

second, different valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that second feature **B1**

Answer: few horsemen; few archers; repeated attacks; discipline

Question 20

first valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature; examples: knights charged uphill against the English shield wall; cavalry charges were most effective against broken or disordered lines; knights attacked after archers had weakened the English line; the English had few horsemen to counter them) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that first feature **B1**

second, different valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that second feature **B1**

Answer: uphill charges; broken lines; after archers; few English horsemen

Question 21

first valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature; examples: accounts differ on how Harold died; some accounts say he was struck by an arrow; other accounts say he was killed in close fighting; his death ended the English royal leadership at the battle) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that first feature **B1**

second, different valid feature (any accurate, relevant feature) **B1**

accurate supporting detail developing that second feature **B1**

Answer: accounts differ; arrow; close fighting; leadership ended

Question 22

Level 1 Identifies one or two relevant reasons, with little or no supporting detail or explanation. **1-3**

Level 2 Identifies and begins to explain one or two relevant reasons, supported by some accurate detail. **4-6**

Level 3 Explains two or three relevant reasons, each supported by accurate and relevant detail. **7-9**

Level 4 Explains three or more relevant reasons in a well-developed, logically structured way, supported throughout by precise and accurate detail, showing how the reasons connect. **10-12**

Indicative content:

- Position: the English held high ground, which made Norman attacks uphill more difficult.
- Formation: the shield wall was tightly locked, so the English line was hard to break.
- Discipline: the English troops held their formation through repeated attacks.
- Missiles: English troops with axes and spears could strike back at attacking Normans.
- Numbers: the English army was large enough to hold a broad line on the hill.
- Limits: the English line did eventually break, so its defence was strong but not unbreakable.

Question 23

Level 1 Identifies one or two relevant reasons, with little or no supporting detail or explanation. **1-3**

Level 2 Identifies and begins to explain one or two relevant reasons, supported by some accurate detail. **4-6**

Level 3 Explains two or three relevant reasons, each supported by accurate and relevant detail. **7-9**

Level 4 Explains three or more relevant reasons in a well-developed, logically structured way, supported throughout by precise and accurate detail, showing how the reasons connect. **10-12**

Indicative content:

- Sussex: William's men were ravaging Harold's own lands in Sussex, and Harold wanted to stop this.
- Speed: Harold wanted to catch William before he could advance further inland or be reinforced.
- Ground: the ridge at Senlac was a strong defensive position for an army that fought on foot.
- Confidence: Harold had just beaten Hardrada and believed his army could win again.
- Pressure: the English were short of time, and waiting for more men risked William doing more damage.
- Judgement: Harold chose the fight because the Normans were close and the ground favoured defence, though the haste left his army tired.

Question 24

Level 1 Identifies one or two relevant reasons, with little or no supporting detail or explanation. **1-3**

Level 2 Identifies and begins to explain one or two relevant reasons, supported by some accurate detail. **4-6**

Level 3 Explains two or three relevant reasons, each supported by accurate and relevant detail. **7-9**

Level 4 Explains three or more relevant reasons in a well-developed, logically structured way, supported throughout by precise and accurate detail, showing how the reasons connect. **10-12**

Indicative content:

- Leaders: Harold, Gyrth and Leofwine were killed, so the English lost the king and his closest supporters in one day.
- Army: many housecarls and thegns died, so the best English fighters were lost.
- Division: Edwin and Morcar had not fought at Hastings and did not act together with other English leaders.
- Heir: Edgar the Aethling was young and had little support to lead a new army.
- Position: William held a base in Sussex and the south coast, and could move on to Kent and London.
- Judgement: the loss of leaders and soldiers made a fresh English army hard to raise, though resistance did continue.

Question 25

Level 1 Identifies one or two relevant reasons, with little or no supporting detail or explanation. **1-3**

Level 2 Identifies and begins to explain one or two relevant reasons, supported by some accurate detail. **4-6**

Level 3 Explains two or three relevant reasons, each supported by accurate and relevant detail. **7-9**

Level 4 Explains three or more relevant reasons in a well-developed, logically structured way, supported throughout by precise and accurate detail, showing how the reasons connect. **10-12**

Indicative content:

- Timing: Harold's army had marched north to defeat Hardrada and Tostig, so it was far from the south coast.
- Distance: after Stamford Bridge Harold had to march back south, which took time.
- Fleet: according to some accounts the English fleet had been disbanded, so William could cross the Channel without a naval challenge.
- Weather: the wind delayed William's crossing, which gave Harold time to prepare, but he could not stop the landing.
- Defence: Harold was not able to defend the whole south coast at the same time.
- Judgement: Harold's position was difficult because of the earlier northern campaign and the wider threats he faced.

Question 26

Level 1 Identifies one or two relevant reasons, with little or no supporting detail or explanation. **1-3**

Level 2 Identifies and begins to explain one or two relevant reasons, supported by some accurate detail. **4-6**

Level 3 Explains two or three relevant reasons, each supported by accurate and relevant detail. **7-9**

Level 4 Explains three or more relevant reasons in a well-developed, logically structured way, supported throughout by precise and accurate detail, showing how the reasons connect. **10-12**

Indicative content:

- Leadership: William showed himself to his men, which helped to stop the panic caused by the rumour of his death.
- Discipline: the Norman centre held its formation and did not break under English attack.
- Reserves: the Norman army had more troops in reserve than the broken Breton wing needed, so the line could be reformed.
- Tactics: William switched to attacks on different parts of the English line, which tested the shield wall.
- Cavalry: Norman knights could still charge the English when the ground allowed it.
- Judgement: the recovery came from leadership and discipline, not from a single decisive moment.

Question 27

Level 1 Identifies one or two relevant reasons, with little or no supporting detail or explanation. **1-3**

Level 2 Identifies and begins to explain one or two relevant reasons, supported by some accurate detail. **4-6**

Level 3 Explains two or three relevant reasons, each supported by accurate and relevant detail. **7-9**

Level 4 Explains three or more relevant reasons in a well-developed, logically structured way, supported throughout by precise and accurate detail, showing how the reasons connect. **10-12**

Indicative content:

- Position: the English held the high ground, which made Norman attacks difficult for much of the day.
- Knights: Norman cavalry charged repeatedly and could chase down English who left the line.
- Numbers: the English could not replace their losses during the day, while the Normans could reform and attack again.
- Horsemen: the English had few horsemen, so they could not counter the Norman knights in open fighting.
- Leadership: the deaths of Harold, Gyrth and Leofwine removed the English leaders during the fighting.
- Judgement: the position was strong, but it could not outweigh the loss of leaders and the Norman combination of troops.

Question 28

Level 1 Shows limited relevant knowledge of the topic and offers a simple, largely unsupported view of the statement. **1-4**

Level 2 Shows some relevant knowledge and identifies relevant factors, but the judgement is only partly supported. **5-8**

Level 3 Shows good relevant knowledge and explains a range of factors, reaching a supported judgement on how far the statement is accurate. **9-12**

Level 4 Shows precise, well-selected knowledge and explains a range of factors in a balanced way, reaching a fully supported and sustained judgement, with clear links between factors. **13-16**

Indicative content:

- Supporting: some English soldiers are said to have left the high ground to chase fleeing Normans, breaking the shield wall.
- Supporting: the fyrd were part-time soldiers and less experienced than the housecarls.
- Against: Norman archers and cavalry attacked together, wearing down the English line over hours.
- Against: the English had few archers or horsemen and could not answer the Norman attacks.
- Against: Harold's army was tired from the march from Stamford Bridge, which made discipline harder to keep.
- Judgement: lost discipline helped break the line, but the Norman combination of troops and the length of the fighting also mattered.

Question 29

Level 1 Shows limited relevant knowledge of the topic and offers a simple, largely unsupported view of the statement. **1-4**

Level 2 Shows some relevant knowledge and identifies relevant factors, but the judgement is only partly supported. **5-8**

Level 3 Shows good relevant knowledge and explains a range of factors, reaching a supported judgement on how far the statement is accurate. **9-12**

Level 4 Shows precise, well-selected knowledge and explains a range of factors in a balanced way, reaching a fully supported and sustained judgement, with clear links between factors. **13-16**

Indicative content:

- Fortune: the battle lasted most of a day, and the outcome depended on events that were partly chance.
- Fortune: the death of Harold, which was traditionally linked to a wound in the fighting, changed the battle.
- Skill: William's use of a mixed army and his attacks on the English line showed planning and skill.
- Skill: the English defence was well organised, showing that Harold's army was not simply lucky.
- Against: historians disagree on the exact sequence of events, so the role of chance cannot be measured precisely.
- Judgement: chance played a part in the result, but planning, numbers and tactics were more important than luck alone.

Question 30

Level 1 Shows limited relevant knowledge of the topic and offers a simple, largely unsupported view of the statement. **1-4**

Level 2 Shows some relevant knowledge and identifies relevant factors, but the judgement is only partly supported. **5-8**

Level 3 Shows good relevant knowledge and explains a range of factors, reaching a supported judgement on how far the statement is accurate. **9-12**

Level 4 Shows precise, well-selected knowledge and explains a range of factors in a balanced way, reaching a fully supported and sustained judgement, with clear links between factors. **13-16**

Indicative content:

- Turning point: the English army lost its leader, which damaged morale and organisation.
- Turning point: Gyrth and Leofwine were also killed, so the English lost several leading men.
- Against: some accounts suggest the shield wall kept fighting after the king's death, so the death alone did not end the battle.
- Against: accounts of how and when Harold died differ, so the timing of his death is uncertain.
- Against: Norman tactics, including the use of archers and repeated attacks, wore down the English line.
- Judgement: Harold's death was an important turning point, but the battle was decided by the longer struggle over the hill.

Question 31

Level 1 Shows limited relevant knowledge of the topic and offers a simple, largely unsupported view of the statement. **1-4**

Level 2 Shows some relevant knowledge and identifies relevant factors, but the judgement is only partly supported. **5-8**

Level 3 Shows good relevant knowledge and explains a range of factors, reaching a supported judgement on how far the statement is accurate. **9-12**

Level 4 Shows precise, well-selected knowledge and explains a range of factors in a balanced way, reaching a fully supported and sustained judgement, with clear links between factors. **13-16**

Indicative content:

- Supporting: the English held high ground, so the Normans had to attack uphill.
- Supporting: a narrow ridge let the English pack their shield wall tightly, and the line held for hours.
- Supporting: marshy ground at the foot of the hill slowed the Norman horses.
- Against: the English had few archers or horsemen, so the Normans could attack them from a distance and by charge.
- Against: the Normans used archers, cavalry and infantry together, which tested the line.
- Judgement: the ground made an English victory possible, but it could not by itself overcome the Norman mixture of troops and the loss of discipline and leaders.

Question 32

any one of: Harold Godwinson; Harold **B1**

Answer: Harold Godwinson

Question 33

any one of: Odo; Odo of Bayeux; Bishop Odo **B1**

Answer: Odo