7.8 Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, 1075: The Revolt of the Earls

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 Name the Danish prince who led a fleet to England in 1075.

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 State one complaint against William that, according to the chronicler Orderic Vitalis, was voiced at the wedding feast.

(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)

3 Name the earl of East Anglia who led the revolt of 1075.

(Total for Question 3 is 1 mark)

4 State two terms of the surrender at Norwich.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

5 State two actions of the Danish fleet in 1075.

(Total for Question 5 is 2 marks)

6 Describe two features of Roger de Breteuil's part in the revolt.

(Total for Question 6 is 4 marks)

7 Describe two features of the punishment of the rebels' followers after the revolt.

(Total for Question 7 is 4 marks)

8 Describe two features of the royal response in the west to Roger de Breteuil's march.

(Total for Question 8 is 4 marks)

9 Explain why the earls joined the revolt of 1075.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the wedding feast at Exning
- William's absence in Normandy

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 9 is 12 marks)

10 Explain why the revolt of 1075 failed to win wider English support.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the role of Lanfranc and Wulfstan of Worcester
- Waltheof's confession to Lanfranc

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 10 is 12 marks)

11 Explain why the defence of Norwich castle mattered to the outcome of the revolt.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the defence of the castle by Ralph's wife
- the surrender terms agreed at Norwich

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 11 is 12 marks)

12 Explain why William punished the rebel earls so severely in 1075-76.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the threat of a plot to seize the kingdom
- the need to deter future revolts

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 12 is 12 marks)

13 Name the English-born earl of Northumbria who was involved in the revolt of 1075.

(Total for Question 13 is 1 mark)

14 Explain why Ralph de Gael rose against William in 1075.

You may use the following in your answer:
- his lands and position in East Anglia
- his Breton origins and the marriage alliance with Roger's family

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 14 is 12 marks)

15 Explain why Waltheof was executed when the other rebels of 1075 were not.

You may use the following in your answer:
- his English background and ties to the old nobility
- his confession to Lanfranc

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 15 is 12 marks)

16 Explain why Lanfranc was so important in defeating the revolt of 1075.

You may use the following in your answer:
- his role as regent in England
- the information he gave William about the plot

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 16 is 12 marks)

17 Explain why the revolt of 1075 damaged William's trust in English nobles.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the execution of Waltheof
- the English earls who had been kept in office

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 17 is 12 marks)

18 'The Revolt of the Earls was mainly a conspiracy of Norman lords against the king.' How far do you agree? Explain your answer.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the ambitions of Ralph de Gael and Roger de Breteuil
- Waltheof's ties to the English nobility

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 18 is 16 marks)

19 'The defeat of the Revolt of the Earls was mainly due to the loyalty and skill of William's regents.' How far do you agree? Explain your answer.

You may use the following in your answer:
- Lanfranc's handling of Waltheof's confession
- Odo and Geoffrey of Coutances' victory near Cambridge

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 19 is 16 marks)

20 'The execution of Waltheof in 1076 was the most important result of the Revolt of the Earls.' How far do you agree? Explain your answer.

You may use the following in your answer:
- Waltheof's confession and execution
- the imprisonment of Roger and the exile of Ralph

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 20 is 16 marks)

21 'The Revolt of the Earls of 1075 marked the end of English-led resistance to William.' How far do you agree? Explain your answer.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the English earls' loss of power after 1075
- the Danish fleet of 1075

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 21 is 16 marks)

22 'The Revolt of the Earls was a serious threat to William's rule in England.' How far do you agree? Explain your answer.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the plan to seize the kingdom with Danish help
- the rebels' defeat in East Anglia and at the Severn

You must also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 22 is 16 marks)

23 Name the place in Suffolk where Ralph de Gael married Emma in 1075.

(Total for Question 23 is 1 mark)

Mark scheme · 7.8 Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, 1075: The Revolt of the Earls

Question 1

any one of: Cnut; Canute; Cnut Sweynsson **B1**

Answer: Cnut

Question 2

any one of: William was illegitimate (a bastard); William had unjustly seized the kingdom; William's rule was unjust, cruel or tyrannical; William had poisoned Count Alan of Brittany; William had not rewarded the Normans and Bretons fairly (as reported by Orderic Vitalis) **B1**

Answer: William was illegitimate

Question 3

any one of: Ralph de Gael; Ralph; Ralph of Gael **B1**

Answer: Ralph de Gael

Question 4

a first valid point. Accept any valid point, e.g. the garrison was given safe conduct and allowed to leave; Emma was allowed to go to Brittany; the garrison was given forty days to leave England; the garrison's lives were spared; the castle was handed back to the king **B1**

a second, different valid point (two valid points from the same category each score) **B1**

Answer: safe conduct; Emma to Brittany

Question 5

a first valid point. Accept any valid point, e.g. it plundered at York, including the minster; it left England without fighting the royal army; it sailed from Denmark with about 200 ships under Cnut; it arrived too late to join the rebel earls; it sailed on to Flanders with its plunder; it did not engage with William's forces **B1**

a second, different valid point (two valid points from the same category each score) **B1**

Answer: plundered York; left England

Question 6

a first valid feature. Accept any accurate feature, e.g. Roger was the son of William fitzOsbern and earl of Hereford; he joined the plot as the brother-in-law of Ralph de Gael; his march was blocked at the Severn so he never joined the East Anglian rebels (by Wulfstan of Worcester and Urse d'Abetot); he was imprisoned for life after the revolt; he was excommunicated; he lost his lands **B1**

supporting detail that develops or exemplifies that first feature (names, places, dates, numbers) **B1**

a second, different valid feature **B1**

supporting detail that develops or exemplifies that second feature **B1**

Answer: earl of Hereford; brother-in-law; blocked; imprisoned

Question 7

a first valid feature. Accept any accurate feature, e.g. severe physical punishments, such as blinding, were inflicted; they fell on the rebels' followers, including the Breton garrison; banishment from England was used too; many of the rebels' followers were driven out of the kingdom; lands were forfeited **B1**

supporting detail that develops or exemplifies that first feature (names, places, dates, numbers) **B1**

a second, different valid feature **B1**

supporting detail that develops or exemplifies that second feature **B1**

Answer: blinding; followers; banishment; driven out

Question 8

a first valid feature. Accept any accurate feature, e.g. Wulfstan of Worcester and Urse d'Abetot blocked Roger at the Severn; they stopped Roger from joining his allies in the east; Wulfstan's diocese of Worcester lay on the Severn; Urse d'Abetot was sheriff of Worcestershire, holding royal authority in the area; Aethelwig, abbot of Evesham, and Walter de Lacy also helped; Roger's army was prevented from crossing **B1**

supporting detail that develops or exemplifies that first feature (names, places, dates, numbers) **B1**

a second, different valid feature **B1**

supporting detail that develops or exemplifies that second feature **B1**

Answer: blocked at Severn; stopped allies; Worcester on Severn; sheriff

Question 9

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:

- chroniclers report that complaints about William were voiced at the wedding feast
- William's absence in Normandy gave the earls a chance to act
- Waltheof's ties to the old English nobility linked him to a wider resentment
- Ralph and Roger were both lords of Norman rank with large honours and unmet ambitions
- the plan to seize the kingdom with Danish help reflected both ambition and grievance

Question 10

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:

- Waltheof's confession to Lanfranc allowed the royal government to act quickly
- Wulfstan of Worcester and Urse d'Abetot stopped Roger's march at the Severn
- the Danish fleet never joined the rebel earls
- the rebels had no clear leader in all regions, so the revolt was divided
- the English population had little to gain from a revolt led by earls

Question 11

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:

- Norwich was the last major rebel stronghold in the east
- Emma's defence kept the castle in rebel hands while Ralph's army was defeated
- the surrender terms let Emma and her men leave for Brittany
- a long siege would have tied up royal forces and delayed the outcome
- the defence showed that women could hold castles in this period

Question 12

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:

- the revolt threatened William's kingdom and his hold on England
- Waltheof's execution showed that even English earls could be punished
- the imprisonment of Roger and exile of Ralph removed the leaders
- severe punishment deterred other earls from rebelling
- William wanted to show that the revolt had failed completely

Question 13

any one of: Waltheof **B1**

Answer: Waltheof

Question 14

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:

- Ralph held a large earldom in East Anglia that gave him local power and wealth
- he had inherited his earldom from his father, Ralph the Staller, and may have felt less secure than favoured Norman lords
- his marriage to Emma linked him to Roger de Breteuil's family and their ambitions
- chroniclers report that the earls wanted to take the kingdom, with Danish help
- William's absence in Normandy gave Ralph a chance to act

Question 15

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:

- Waltheof was an English earl, so his betrayal of the king's trust was seen as particularly serious
- his confession to Lanfranc revealed the plot, but he was still held responsible
- Roger and Ralph were punished with imprisonment and exile, while Waltheof's fate was death
- his marriage to Judith, William's niece, meant that he had a close family tie that made his betrayal worse
- execution at Winchester in 1076 may have been intended as a warning to English nobles

Question 16

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:

- Lanfranc governed England as regent while William was in Normandy
- he wrote to William about the plot, so the king could respond
- he organised royal forces and supported the commanders in the field
- his position as archbishop gave him authority over the English Church
- his prompt action limited the time the rebels had to organise

Question 17

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:

- Waltheof was an English earl who was trusted and then executed
- English nobles had been kept in office after 1066, and their loyalty was now doubted
- William relied more on Norman and trusted lords for key positions after 1075
- the revolt showed that English power could still threaten the king
- fewer English earls were appointed, reflecting this loss of trust

Question 18

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:

- Ralph de Gael and Roger de Breteuil were lords of Norman rank whose ambitions drove the revolt
- Waltheof was English, which shows the revolt was not only a Norman plot
- Roger and Ralph were powerful earls who may have wanted more land and wealth
- the plan to seize the kingdom with Danish help involved more than the Norman earls
- the revolt drew in English nobles whose resentment was wider than the earls
- the revolt's failure shows how far the earls had isolated themselves

Question 19

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:

- Lanfranc acted quickly as regent and wrote to William about the plot
- Odo and Geoffrey of Coutances defeated Ralph's army near Cambridge
- Wulfstan of Worcester and Urse d'Abetot stopped Roger's march at the Severn
- Waltheof's confession weakened the plot from inside
- the rebels lacked a clear plan and divided their forces across the country

Question 20

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:

- Waltheof was the only one of the three earls to be executed, which made his fate significant
- Roger's life imprisonment and Ralph's exile removed the leading rebels from England
- fewer English earls were appointed after 1075, so the revolt had lasting effects
- royal control over the shires and the North increased after the revolt
- the end of English-led resistance mattered more than any single punishment
- the revolt's failure ended the threat of a Danish-backed rising for a time

Question 21

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:

- after 1075 there were far fewer English earls, and English resistance declined
- Waltheof's execution in 1076 removed the last English earl among the rebels
- the Danish fleet never joined the earls, showing the limits of foreign help
- earlier revolts in 1068-71 had already weakened English resistance
- the royal government's control over the shires and the North increased
- some English resistance continued in later years, so the revolt was not the absolute end

Question 22

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:

- the plan to seize the kingdom, if carried out, could have threatened William's rule
- Ralph and Roger had large earldoms and power in East Anglia and the Welsh border
- the rebels failed quickly in East Anglia and at the Severn, so the threat was short-lived
- the Danish fleet never joined the rebels, which weakened the plan
- Waltheof's confession to Lanfranc gave William early warning, which limited the danger
- the revolt's collapse showed the strength of royal government even when the king was abroad

Question 23

any one of: Exning **B1**

Answer: Exning