


Knowledge Organiser: Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest, 1060-66.

		Chronology: what happened on these dates?		Vocabulary: define these words	
		1064	Harold's embassy to Normandy.	Anglo-Saxon	People who had settled in England after the Romans left Britain.
When Edward the Confessor died in 1066 without an heir to the throne a succession crisis ensued and led to the Norman Invasion of England.		1065	Uprising against Earl Tostig , led by Northumbrian Thegns. Tostig is later exiled from England.	Aristocracy	The people in society who are seen as being important because of their wealth and power.
Summarise your learning		5-6 th Jan 1066	Death of Edward the Confessor. Harold Godwinson is chosen by the Witan to become the next King of England.	Ceorls	'Free' peasant farmers not tied to their land.
Topic 1: Anglo-Saxon Society	Anglo-Saxon England was a Christian country which had developed a strong system of government and a prosperous economy. There was an established social system with the Monarch at the head.	20 th Sept 1066	The Battle of Gate Fulford – A crushing defeat for Earls Edwin and Morcar against Harald Hardrada.	Hides	The measurement used for land. One hide was about 120 acres.
Topic 2: The last years of Edward the Confessor and the succession crisis	In 1066, Edward the Confessor died without an heir to the throne. This created a succession and crisis and a competition for the throne. This was complicated by promised Edward made on his deathbed to the rival claimants.	25 th Sept 1066	The Battle of Stamford Bridge – A battle between Harold Godwinson and Harald Hardrada near York. Hardrada is killed.	Earls	Highest Anglo-Saxon aristocracy.
		14 th Oct 1066	The Battle of Hastings – A battle between Harold Godwinson and William of Normandy at Hastings. Harold Godwinson is killed. William becomes King of England.	Oath	A solemn promise to do something.
Topic 3: The rival claimants for the throne	After the death of Edward the Confessor, Harold Godwinson was crowned King by the Witan. He defeated Harald Hardrada at the Battle of Stamford Bridge in 1066.			Shire Reeve	An official of the King: his Sheriff. Sheriffs managed the King's estates, collected revenue for him and were in charge of local courts.
		Who were these people? What were these events?		Blood Feuds	A revenge system based on family loyalties and honour. If someone was killed then the family had the right to kill someone from the murderers family, who then had the right to revenge themselves, and so on.
Topic 4: The Norman Invasion	The Normans invaded and defeated Harold Godwinson at the Battle of Hastings in 1066.	Edward the Confessor	An Anglo-Saxon King of England from 1042-1066. He died without an heir to the throne causing a succession crisis in England.	Danelaw	The part of England where Danish (Viking) power had been the strongest and which kept some of its Danish laws instead of Anglo-Saxon ones.
		Harold Godwinson	Son of Earl Godwin. Succeeded his father as Earl of Wessex in 1053 and was crowned King of England in 1066.	Embassy	An official visit by representatives of one ruler to another ruler.
		Tostig Godwinson	Brother of Harold Godwinson. Titled Earl of Northumbria in 1055 but was exiled after a revolt against his rule. He fought alongside Harald Hardrada at the Battle of Stamford Bridge.	Housecarls	Highly-trained troops that stayed with their lord wherever he went.
		Harald Hardrada	King of Norway. A fearsome Viking warrior feared across Europe. He was a rival claimant to the throne in 1066 but was killed by Harold Godwinson at the Battle of Stamford Bridge.	Fyrd	The men of the Anglo-Saxon army and fleet. Every five hides provided one man for the Fyrd.
		William of Normandy	Duke of Normandy and later King of England. He was a rival claimant to the throne in 1066 and defeated Harold Godwinson at the Battle of Hastings.	Tithings	An administrative unit that was a group of ten households.
		Edgar Aethling	Nephew of Edward the Confessor. He was a rival claimant to the throne in 1066 due to his royal blood but was not chosen by the Witan due to his young age.		

