

# Norman England



# Exam Practice Booklet

## 1. – How convincing is this interpretation about...?

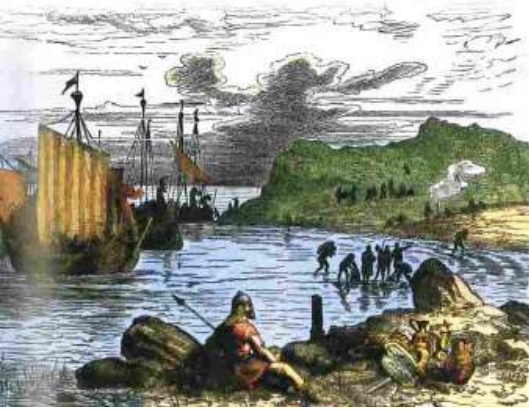
### 8 marks – 2 paragraphs – 10 minutes

Do 2 clear paragraphs. The first on the content of the source, clearly linking this with your own knowledge. **Pick out at least 2 aspects.** The second paragraph focus on the overall feel of the source, does it broadly fit in? If not, clearly use some own knowledge to explain which bits are covered, but how some elements are not. Avoid saying the interpretation is not good, it will always be convincing in some way.

How to judge if a source is convincing or not:

- What it describes/explains matches with what you know to be true *'This is a convincing element because I know that...'*
- The extract covers a specific aspect of that area in detail *'The source depicts an important area of...this is because I can see...which links with...'*
- The overall 'feel' of the source, does it generally feel right to you. Talk about the 'atmosphere' or 'general depiction' *'To my knowledge...was...this source depicts parts of this'*
- It accurately demonstrates the complex nature of that event - is it over simplified?
- *'...is well reflected in this interpretation' 'it depicts...' 'one aspect that is not adequately demonstrated is...'*
- Use lots of own knowledge to prove all of your ideas

7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies how convincing the source is of that area as a whole, identifying areas which may not be represented by the source</li> </ul>
5-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than one aspect backed up with knowledge</li> </ul>
3-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One element of the source linked with some own knowledge</li> </ul>
1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asserts something is convincing but doesn't back that idea up</li> </ul>



**How convincing is this interpretation about William's landing at Pevensey in 1066? Explain using the interpretation and your own knowledge. (8)**



**How convincing is this interpretation of a motte and bailey castle? Use the interpretation and your own knowledge. (8)**



**How convincing is this interpretation about this aspect of the Norman legal system. Use the interpretation and your own knowledge. (8)**





**How convincing is this interpretation about this aspect of the Norman legal system.**

**Use the interpretation and your own knowledge. (8)**

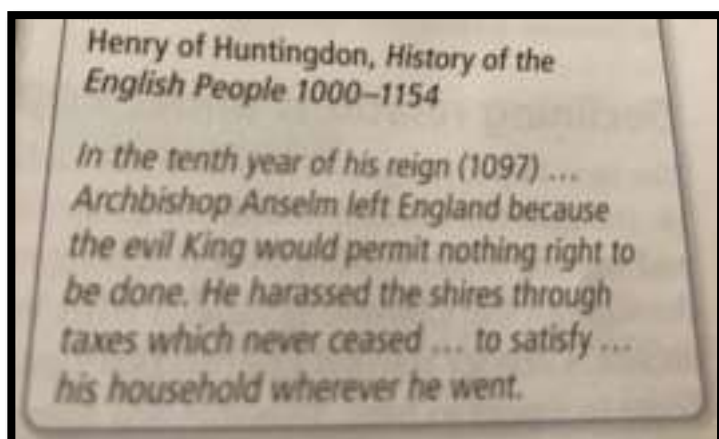
**How convincing is this interpretation of life in a Norman village? Use the interpretation and your own knowledge. (8)**



▼ **INTERPRETATION B** *From The Feudal Kingdom of England 1042–1216 by Frank Barlow, 1999:*

Church laws were still under royal supervision, and although the church was allowed its own law and its own courts, the king was the judge of the limits of Church power.

**How convincing is this interpretation about the role of the Church in England? Use the interpretation and your own knowledge.**



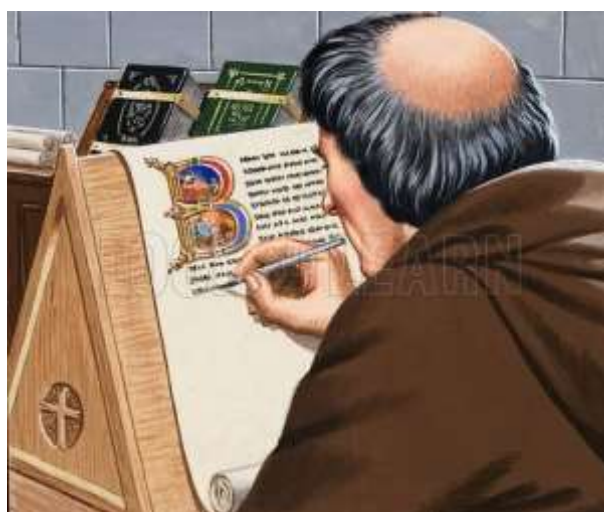
**How convincing is this interpretation of William Rufus' relationship with the Church?**

**How convincing is this interpretation about the way in which William dealt with rebellions? Use the interpretation and your own knowledge. (8)**

▼ **INTERPRETATION C** Adapted from a history textbook by Toby Purser, 2004; Purser is a specialist in Norman history and his book focuses on how Anglo-Saxon England was transformed into Anglo-Norman England:

William put the rebellions down with great brutality; any pretence he had to being the legitimate heir of Edward the Confessor ended during this period. To underpin his occupation, he built hundreds of castles across the kingdom, garrisoned by armed mounted troops.

**How convincing is this interpretation about the role of the Church in England? Use the interpretation and your own knowledge. (8)**





**How convincing is this interpretation about Norman monasticism? Use the interpretation and your own knowledge. (8)**

## Question 2 – Explain what was important about

### 8 marks – 2 paragraphs – 10 minutes

This question wants to explain the impact of certain changes in society. Often this will mean explaining how certain changes helped the Normans rule, or made it easier to consolidate their power. This means you have to go further than just explain what changes they made and clearly explain how this would benefit the Normans or William/William II/Henry I.

Ensure that you have:

- Addressed 2/3 **consequences** of the event/issue in the question
- Explained why each of these consequences was important – what happened because of it? *'this enabled the Norman rulers to...'*
- Used extensive and specific contextual knowledge to explain why these consequences were important *'this linked to ideas of control such as...'*
- When appropriate – described suitable events/actions/people – linked to the consequence *'this is reflected in the case of the Bishops of Durham who could set his own taxes in order to defend the North'*
- Structured your answer into three separate paragraphs
- Made consistent links back to the question – *'therefore, this meant the lack of an heir was important because...'*
- Used these phrases: led to, meant that, allowed for, ensured that, facilitated (in appropriate places)

7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links all those consequences into the broader picture of Norman England, how it helped them establish control or helped limit further Anglo-Saxon influence</li> </ul>
5-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two or more consequences of that area backed up by factual knowledge</li> </ul>
3-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple explanation of one consequence, clearly linked to how it impacted people or events</li> </ul>
1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify consequence(s) but no clear evidence to back up that idea</li> </ul>

Explain what was important about the claim of Harold Godwinson for the English throne in 1066. (8)

Explain what was important about the claim of William of Normandy for the English throne in 1066. (8)

Explain what was important about the rebellions that William faced between 1067 and 1075. (8)

Explain what was important about how William changed the feudal system. (8)

Explain what was important about the Domesday Book in 1086. (8)

Explain what was important about the reforms made to the church by the Normans. (8)

Explain what was important about the reforms that the Normans made to monasteries. (8)

Explain what was important about the changes made by the Normans to education. (8)

Explain what was important about the building of Norman castles. (8)

Explain what was important about the growth of towns in Norman England. (8)

Explain what was important about William's preparations for the Battle of Hastings. (8)

Explain what was important about the actions that William took after the Battle of Hastings to make the English submit to his rule.



### Question 3 – Write an account (cross this out and put ‘explain’!)

#### 8 marks – 10 minutes – 2 paragraphs

This question tests how well you understand changes in key areas

- Given as many key bits of information on the event as you can, key facts/figures, dates, examples
- Clearly explained how certain elements of changed from one state of affairs to another, what was it like before AND after.
- Considered if there is a larger and more important element of change/event you should write about first, then less significant developments after
- Done at least two paragraphs
- ‘This changed because’ ‘One key element of change is this’ ‘prior to the Norman Conquest X was the case, however...’
- **Did some changes have a wider impact on other factors eg Norman control of England?**

7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complex analysis of changes and why they took place</li> <li>• Clear on how that changed developed the power of the Normans/impacted wider events</li> <li>• Range of detailed own knowledge used to analyse change in that area</li> </ul>
5-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed analysis of change(s) which is backed up by detailed own knowledge eg dates</li> <li>• Presented as a narrative so makes it clear at what points things changed under the Normans</li> </ul>
3-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shows an understanding of change(s) linked with more specific information about that change. May link to the reason why that change happened.</li> </ul>
1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic statement of what changed, relevant to the question but lacking any specific knowledge</li> </ul>

Write an account of how William won the Battle of Hastings. (8)

Write an account of how William changed the government of England after 1066. (8)

Write an account of how William changed the legal system of England after 1066. (8)

Write an account of how life changed in Norman towns after William became King.

Write an account of how the Normans increased their control over the English church after 1066. (8)

Write an account of the Norman monarchs' relationship with the Papacy. (8)

Write an account of how village life changed after the Conquest (8)

Write an account of how monastic life changed under the Normans (8)

Write an account of how William I dealt with rebellions (8)

## Question 4 – Location Study (Durham 2018, Pevensey Castle 2019, The Battle of Hastings 2020)

### 16 marks - 20 minutes – 4 paragraphs

This question tests how well you understand changes and consequences in key areas

- Given specific evidence about the location, function, structure, design, people connected to the site? What were the consequences or what occurred?
- How the site links to other key events or changes from the period?
- How does the site fit into the ‘big picture’ of what was going on at that particular time?
- Use plenty of contextual knowledge around the question eg – talk about structure of English Church if relevant to question about Durham Cathedral/ the sites function in controlling the North
- Address the quote in the question

13-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complex explanation of changes which manages to link the different functions of the site together to summarise its primary function</li> <li>• All statements backed up with detailed knowledge of the site and detailed contextual knowledge</li> </ul>
9-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed explanation of changes linked to the site</li> <li>• Logical structure, each paragraph focusses on a different element of the sites importance for the Normans. These backed up with wider contextual knowledge about the changes under the Normans.</li> <li>• May suggest that one area where the site changed things for the Normans had greater merit</li> </ul>
5-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple explanation of change(s) or functions in that area linked to the site, eg by <i>‘building Durham Cathedral the Normans were better able to control...’</i></li> <li>• Some factual knowledge used in relation to the site</li> </ul>
1-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic explanation of change(s) related to the site or how its functions helped the Normans</li> <li>• May not use specific own knowledge</li> </ul>

The most important changes the Normans made to England was the improvements they made to religion. How far does your study of Durham Cathedral support this view? (16 marks)

The main change that the Normans brought about was that they increased the influence of the kings over the church. How far does a study of Durham cathedral support this statement? 16 marks

'The main change Norman Cathedrals brought about was that they allowed the Normans to control the population without the need to use force.' How far does the study of Durham Cathedral support this statement? Explain your answer. You should refer to Durham Cathedral. [16 marks]

The Normans wanted to build impressive cathedrals as a symbol of their power. How far does a study of Durham Cathedral support this statement?

The Normans wanted to revive Monasticism. How far does a study of Durham Cathedral support this view?

'The main change Normans brought about through their extensive Cathedral building schemes was to increase the Church's influence over England'. How far does the study of Durham Cathedral support this statement? Explain your answer.

'The main change Normans brought about through their new designs of Cathedrals was to make Cathedrals more secular than religious'. How far does the study of Durham Cathedral support this statement? Explain your answer.