

History - Monday 8th February 2021

WALT understand how the Viking reign ended in Britain

Today we will be learning about what led to the end of the Viking reign in Britain.

Last week we learned about Alfred the Great and his son Edward the Elder. After Edward the Elder died, there were many kings who followed him. We re-join the timeline in 1042AD where Edward the Confessor is the current King...

So, who was Edward the Confessor?



- Edward the Confessor reigned from 1042AD until 1066AD.
- During his life, he moved and lived in Normandy (France) for 25 years. Here he made many alliances and close friends who became his advisors when he became king.
- Edward was married to Edith Godwin but they did not have any children.
- He was the person who ordered Westminster Abbey to be built, though it was rebuilt in the 13th century - the one we see today.
- **FUN FACT:** he was named 'the confessor' because he was very religious and often confessed (spoke to) God.

When Edward the Confessor died he left no heir to take his place as King. This left the country with no ruler so three men battled for the chance to become ruler of Britain...

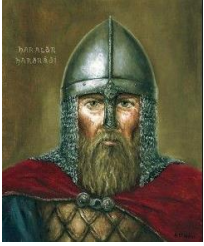

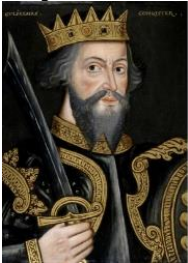
Who should be the next King of Britain?

Here are our three contenders:

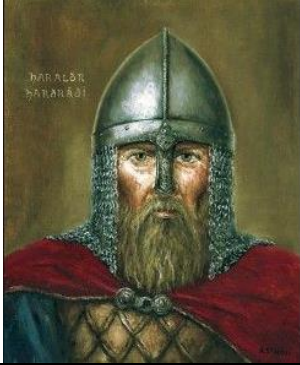
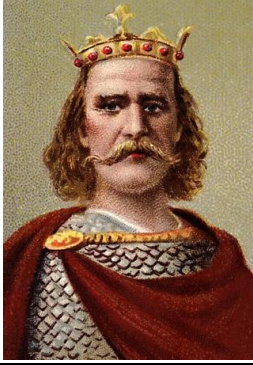
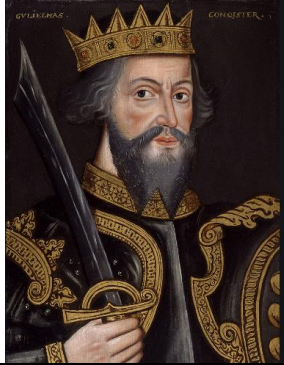


You are going to make the decision on who should be the next King.

Task: Read through the information below, take notes in reasons for and against them becoming King. You can use the table provided to record your notes or create your own.

King	Reasons For	Reasons Against
Harold Hadrada (King of Norway) 		
Harold Godwinson (Earl of Wessex) 		
William, Duke of Normandy 		

My prediction for who will win the battle to become King of Britain and why:

		
HARALD HARDRADA	HAROLD GODWINSON (Earl of Wessex)	WILLIAM, DUKE OF NORMANDY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harald was the king of Norway already. • He was descendent of the King of England between 1016AD and 1032AD. • He wanted to be king of England because he wanted more power and land. • He was very unpopular • Harald was a famous Viking warrior and skilled commander. He already had secure control over his own land. • He was feared by many, just hearing his name made people tremble with fear. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was born and bred in England. • He was very popular with ordinary people. • He was son to the most powerful noble in England. • He was not of royal birth. • He was a good soldier and politician. • The council chose him to be King. • His advisors were made up of Normans. • Harold was Edward's brother-in-law, but there was no blood connection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was a cousin to Edward the Confessor. • He claimed that Edward and Harold had promised him the throne, but English supporters of Harold challenged this. • He was a very successful ruler of Normandy so he thought that he would be suited for the English throne. • He was very unpopular with the English.

So, who do you think should have been the next King of Britain?

Click on the link below to find out what actually happened:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztyr9j6/articles/z3s9j6f>

Are you happy with the outcome of the Battle of Hastings?

Did the person that you decided would be a good King win the crown?