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Chapter 4

HISTORICAL REFERENCE

The Danish kings ruled in Britain for about 24 years. The last of them, **Edward the Confessor**, died without a son to follow him. 15 years before his death he had promised the **English Crown** to the **Duke** of Normandy, William, who was his cousin. But the British **nobility** supported Harold, Earl of Wessex. Harold was the most powerful Anglo-Saxon **earl** of England and in 1066 **he was crowned** in York. William, **feeling cheated**, gathered an army to invade England. On 14 October, 1066 the Normans won a victory and started the last invasion in the history of Britain.



William the Conqueror (1066–1087)

When darkness fell over the hills of Sussex on 14 October, 1066, few people had any idea of what had happened. But nowadays every schoolchild in England knows that on that day the famous **Battle of Hastings** took place. In that battle the last Anglo-Danish king **was defeated** by a Norman invader, Duke William. Soon after his victory, **William the Conqueror** was crowned as William I. The new king brought a new law and a new language.



The Battle of Hastings

The Norman aristocracy spoke French. Most of the old Anglo-Danish aristocracy **was depressed**. To further extend his grip on England, William I ordered that a book be made containing information on who owned what throughout the country. This book would also tell him who owed him what in tax and because the information was on record, nobody could dispute or argue against a tax demand. This is why the book brought doom and gloom to the people of England — hence **“Domesday Book”**.

Wordlist

Edward the Confessor — Эдуард Исповедник
English Crown — английская корона
duke — герцог
nobility — дворянство
earl [ɜ:l] — граф
he was crowned — его короновали
feeling cheated — чувствуя себя обманутым
Battle of Hastings ['heɪstɪŋz] — битва при Гастингсе

was defeated — потерпел поражение
William the Conqueror ['kɒŋkəɹə] — Вильгельм Завоеватель
to depress — притеснять
Domesday Book ['du:mzdeɪ] — Книга судного дня
record ['rekɔ:d] — запись
to link — соединить



HENRY VIII (1509–1547)

Claim to fame

- **Got rid of** the Catholic Church in England and made himself head of the new Church. That gave him the chance to divorce his first wife and also to steal the riches of the Catholic Church.
- He built the first modern navy.
- He liked hunting, eating, riding, eating, archery, eating, music, eating... and getting his own way.
- All in all he had six wives.

1. Choose the correct beginning or ending.

- 1) The Tudor family came to power...
 - a) after the Hundred Years' War.
 - b) after the War with Ireland.
 - c) after the Wars of the Roses.
- 2) By 1521 Henry VIII had written an Anti-Lutheran book for which a grateful Pope awarded him the title of...
 - a) Supreme Head of his new church.
 - b) Defender of the Faith.
 - c) Hammer of the Scots.
- 3) Henry VIII closed the monasteries because...
 - a) he wanted to get their wealth and lands.
 - b) he was an atheist.
 - c) he quarrelled with his first wife.
- 4) Henry VIII wanted to divorce Catherine of Aragon because...
 - a) she loved his brother.
 - b) she didn't give him a son.
 - c) she had a nasty character.
- 5) Henry VIII had his second wife, Anne Boleyn, executed because...
 - a) she didn't give him a son.
 - b) she had six fingers on her hand.