Who Won the Crown of England in 1066?

The Confessor's Crown · KS2 History · Years 3 to 6

Name _____

Class _____

Date _____

1 Numbers in the film

MATHS LINK

a. Edward became king in 1042 and ruled for 24 years. In which year did his reign end? _____

b. Harold won at Stamford Bridge on 25 September. William's ships landed three days later. Date: _____

c. Use your answer to b. How many days is it from William's landing to 14 October? Do not count the landing day. _____ days

d. Hardrada came with about 300 ships. Only 24 were needed to carry the survivors home. About how many fewer ships went home? _____

e. Harold raced back about 250 miles. If you walked 25 miles every day, how many days would 250 miles take you? _____ days

f. How many days is it from the battle on 14 October to Christmas Day? Do not count 14 October. October has 31 days and November has 30. _____ days

2 Put it in order

Number the eight events **1** to **8** in the order they happened.

CHRONOLOGY

☐	William's ships land on the empty coast.	☐	Harold wins at Stamford Bridge.
☐	Edward is buried, and Harold is crowned.	☐	The shield wall breaks on a hill near Hastings.
☐	William is crowned in Westminster Abbey.	☐	Hardrada beats the English army near York.
☐	Edward becomes king.	☐	The food runs out, and Harold sends his men home.

3 Words to know

VOCABULARY

a. Draw a line to match each word to its meaning.

abbey	a person the Church says lived a very holy life
earl	people who are still alive after a battle
saint	a large church where monks live and pray
survivors	fighters standing close together with their shields locked
shield wall	made king in a special church ceremony
crowned	a great lord, one of the most powerful men under the king

b. Finish these sentences using three of the words above.

- Harold was the most powerful _____ in England.
- Harold's men locked their shields and made a _____.
- Only twenty-four ships were needed to carry the _____ home.

4 One army, two seas

CAUSE AND CONSEQUENCE

Write **N** if it happened in the **north** of England, or **S** if it happened in the **south**. Then answer i and ii below.

☐	Harold watches the coast all summer.	☐	Hardrada beats the English army near York.
☐	Harold wins at Stamford Bridge.	☐	William's ships land on the empty coast.
☐	Hardrada sails into a river mouth.	☐	The shield wall stands on a hill near Hastings.

i. Harold had only one army. Why could William land without a fight?

ii. The film says William *said* Edward had promised him the crown. Why does it not just tell it as true?

5 Time, place and possibility

ENGLISH LINK

a. A **fronted adverbial** tells you *when* or *where* at the start of a sentence, and a comma follows it. Underline the fronted adverbial in each sentence.

- All that summer, Harold watched the south coast.
- On 25 September, at Stamford Bridge, Harold surprised the Norwegians.
- By evening, the wall had broken.

b. Circle the word that shows someone is not sure. The last sentence is a made-up example, not from the film.

- Harold was probably crowned in that same abbey.
- Your family could drive that far in about four hours.
- The English might have won if the wall had held.

c. Write your own sentence about 1066 that starts with a time or place, then a comma.

Free to print and copy for classroom use.

Answers and teaching notes

Who Won the Crown of England in 1066? · The Confessor's Crown

Answers

1 · Numbers in the film.

a. 1042 + 24 = **1066**.

b. 25 + 3 = **28 September**.

c. 29 and 30 September are 2 days, then 14 more in October: **16 days**. Mark c from the pupil's own b.

d. 300 – 24 = **about 276**. Accept any "about" answer from 270 to 280, as the film tells the 300 with *the story goes*.

e. 250 ÷ 25 = **10 days**. The 25 miles a day is a number for the sum, not a fact about Harold's march.

f. 17 days left in October + 30 in November + 25 in December = **72 days**.

2 · Put it in order. 1 Edward becomes king (1042) · **2** Edward is buried, and Harold is crowned (January 1066) · **3** The food runs out, and Harold sends his men home (early September) · **4** Hardrada beats the English army near York · **5** Harold wins at Stamford Bridge (25 September) · **6** William's ships land on the empty coast (28 September) · **7** The shield wall breaks on a hill near Hastings (14 October) · **8** William is crowned in Westminster Abbey (Christmas Day 1066)

3 · Words to know. a. abbey → a large church where monks live and pray · earl → a great lord, one of the most powerful men under the king · saint → a person the Church says lived a very holy life · survivors → people who are still alive after a battle · shield wall → fighters standing close together with their shields locked · crowned → made king in a special church ceremony. **b. earl** · **shield wall** · **survivors**

4 · One army, two seas. Harold watches the coast all summer **S** · Hardrada beats the English army near York **N** · Stamford Bridge **N** · William's ships land **S** · Hardrada sails into a river mouth **N** · the shield wall near Hastings **S**. **i.** Accept any answer that links the two: Harold and his army had gone north to fight Hardrada, and his men from the south coast had already been sent home, so nobody guarded the south. **ii.** Accept any answer that says it is William's side of the story: it is what he said to make his claim, and nobody can check it now. The film keeps it as a claim, not a proved fact.

5 · Time, place and possibility. a. <u>All that summer,</u> · <u>On 25 September, at Stamford Bridge,</u> · <u>By evening,</u> **b. probably** · **could** · **might** (the third sentence is a made-up example). **c.** Accept any sentence that begins with a time or place phrase followed by a comma, for example *On Christmas Day 1066, William was crowned.*

Curriculum links

History. National Curriculum KS2 History: *the Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to the time of Edward the Confessor*. The non-statutory examples include *Edward the Confessor and his death in 1066*.

Maths. Question 1: adding and subtracting with four-digit numbers (Year 4), counting days across month boundaries, and a simple division (250 ÷ 25). **Geography.** Question 4: north and south in England, using places named in the film. **English.** Question 5: fronted adverbials (Year 4 statutory) and modal verbs (*could*, *might*) and adverbs that show possibility (*probably*) (Year 5 statutory).

Where each question comes from in the film

Question	Film part	Words in the film (quotes exact; question sentences shortened)
1a	One Crown, Two Seas (0:12)	"In 1042, the line of Danish kings ended" · "He ruled for twenty-four years"
1b, 1c, 1d, 1e	The Empty Coast (1:44); The Hill and the Crown (3:20)	"On 25 September, at Stamford Bridge" · "Three days later, William's ships landed on the empty coast" · "On 14 October, on a long grey hill near Hastings" · "The story goes that he had about three hundred ships" · "only twenty-four ships were needed to carry the survivors home" · "about two hundred and fifty miles"
1f	The Hill and the Crown (3:20)	"On Christmas Day 1066, William was crowned"
2	All three parts	"In 1042" and the burial (One Crown) · "By early September, the food had run out", York, Stamford Bridge, the landing (Empty Coast) · "By evening, the wall had broken" and Christmas Day (Hill and Crown)
3	All three parts	"new abbey" · "the most powerful earl in England" · "the Church made him a saint" · "the survivors" · "They locked their shields and made a wall" · "William was crowned"
4	One Crown, Two Seas; The Empty Coast	"Harold watched the south coast" · "Hardrada sailed into a northern river mouth" · "nobody guarded the south" · "Duke William of Normandy said that Edward had promised him the crown" · "North, then south, Harold ran between two seas"
5	All three parts	"All that summer, Harold watched the south coast" · "On 25 September, at Stamford Bridge" · "By evening, the wall had broken" · "Harold was probably crowned in that same abbey" · "Your family could drive that far in about four hours" · the third sentence in b is made up

This sheet is careful about

Where 1066 sits in the curriculum. The Norman Conquest itself is not in the KS2 programme of study. The sheet treats 1066 as the end of the Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle and uses Hastings only as the film tells it.

Claims are kept as claims. Edward's promise and Harold's oath are William's side of the story. Question 4 ii asks why the film keeps them as something William said, not who was right.

Uncertain things stay uncertain. Harold was probably (not certainly) crowned in Westminster Abbey. The 300 ships and the Normans pretending to flee are told with *the story goes*, and the 250 miles is a rough figure. The film says only that Harold was killed, so the sheet never asks how.

Free to print and copy for classroom use.