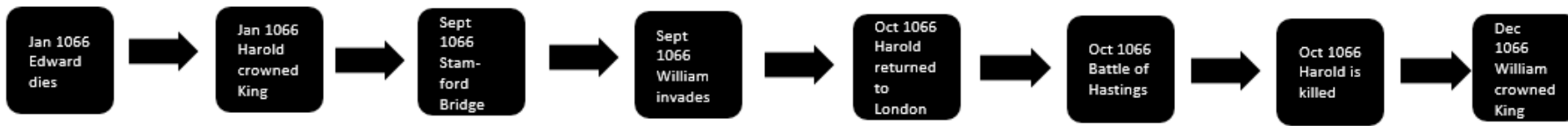


# Why did William win the Battle of Hastings



Key Word	Definition
Cavalry	Soldiers who fight on horseback
Harald Hardrada	King of Norway.
Harold Godwinson	Crowned King of England after Edward died.
Norman	Williams forces - French
Retreat	Leave battlefield in defeat.
Saxon	Harold's forces - English
Viking	Harald's forces - Norway
William	William Duke of Normandy

We know that at various points in the battle the Normans showered the English with arrows and crossbow bolts, so it is not unlikely that Harold was hit, perhaps fatally, perhaps in the eye. But it is possible that Harold died in a very different way, deliberately cut down by his enemies. William could not risk that Harold could withdraw, enabling him to fight another day. It was imperative that his opponent should die before the day was out.  
*Marc Morris*



What do I need to know?	
	Hardrada and Tostig invaded England and landed in Yorkshire. Harold Godwinson marched his men 200 miles North and attacked Harald Hardrada. Harold used a tactic of a false retreat and defeated Harald.
	At the same time William invaded and landed on the south coast. Initially Harold was winning and William had to remove his helmet to prove that he was still alive. However, William's army used the false retreat tactic and Harold was killed.
	LUCK – Harold's army was tired and depleted after the first battle at Stamford Bridge. William was also only able to cross the Channel when the wind changed direction. This was when Harold was fighting in the North.
	TACTICS – William was able to rally his troops by taking off his helmet, He was also able to move more freely because he was on horseback. William also used the false retreat tactic effectively.
	RESOURCES – The Normans had well trained horses and used them in battle. The Saxons did not have these. They also used more crossbows and arrows.



If you want to find out more check out the following links or scan the QR codes on your phone or tablet.

**READ**  
[https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/1066-and-the-norman-conquest/what-happened-battle-hastings/.](https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/1066-and-the-norman-conquest/what-happened-battle-hastings/)

**SCAN ME**

**WATCH**  
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=AOGzsBEIYFE>

**SCAN ME**

**LISTEN**  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000ip20>

**SCAN ME**

## Does King John deserve his reputation as a bad king?



Key Word	Definition
Barons	Leading noblemen
Crusade	Holy wars that were fought to control Jerusalem.
Magna Carta	A document that said the king had to obey the law.
Excommunicate	To throw someone out of the Catholic church
Richard the Lionheart	John's brother who led the Third Crusade
Lackland	John's nickname as he had land taken away from him.
Pope	Head of the Catholic church.
Rochester Castle	Place where there was a battle between John and his barons.

What happened at Runnymede in 1215 was by any standard a landmark event and a defining moment in England's constitutional history.  
*Nigel Saul*



While there are debates about Magna Carta's importance, these are nothing compared with the historical disputes over the monarch himself: bad King John or misunderstood, unfairly maligned King John?  
*Sean McGlynn*



What do I need to know?	
	John was the son of Eleanor of Aquitaine and Henry II. His brother was Richard the Lionheart- so called because he led The Third Crusade. John ruled England whilst Richard was away, but tried to overthrow his brother and had his land taken away as punishment.
	John became unpopular because he fell out with the Pope and was excommunicated, which meant that neither he, nor the people of England could get to heaven. He also lost land in France and raised taxes to pay for the wars.
	Robin Hood stories are set in the time of King John. These stories make John out to be a bad and ruthless king, but later historians claim that John was actually a good king and politician.
	John fell out with his barons as he preferred to get advice from foreign advisors. In 1215 John laid siege to Rochester castle to take it back from rebels, he was successful and the rebels surrendered.
	In 1215 John was forced by his barons to sign the Magna Carta (which means "great charter") at Runnymede in Surrey. This was a list of rules that the king had to keep and limited the power of the king.

READ		<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-12603356">https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-12603356</a>
WATCH		<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=04LdD7qiVqY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=04LdD7qiVqY</a>
LISTEN		<a href="https://podtail.com/en/podcast/history-extra-podcast/king-john-medieval-monster/">https://podtail.com/en/podcast/history-extra-podcast/king-john-medieval-monster/</a>