

History

Year 7

Topic Williams Control (Unit 3)

Key words

1.	Medieval	The period between 1066-1500.
2.	Feudal System	The social structure of Medieval England.
3.	Villein	Peasant at the bottom of the Feudal system.
4.	Baron	Noble land owner that pledged their loyalty to the King.
5.	Normans	People from the Normandy region of France, led by King William.
6.	Motte and Bailey	The first type of castle made by William. It was made out of wood and had a higher Motte part and a lower Bailey part.
7.	Stone Keep Castle	Similar to Motte and Bailey but made of stronger materials such as stone.
8.	Concentric Castle	A castle with two or more supporting walls with a stone keep.
9.	Domesday Book	A record of what everyone owned in the country in order to decide how much tax people should pay.
10	Taxes	Money collected from people by the King.

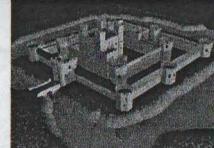
Key events: Castles

William kept control by building castles throughout England. Over time 3 types of castles developed throughout Britain:

Motte and Bailey: The first castles built to fight against rebellions. They were built quickly and made out of wood, meaning that they were not very strong and could easily be destroyed. The Bailey was on flat land where the majority of the people lived. The Motte was the higher land of the castle where the fort was.

Stone Keep: This castle was now made out of stone and had tower a form of defence. The main part of the castle was the Keep, a large square tower, used as the main defence.

Concentric – At least two surrounding walls with the inner wall higher than the outer to help defence. These protected the central tower which was made of stone.

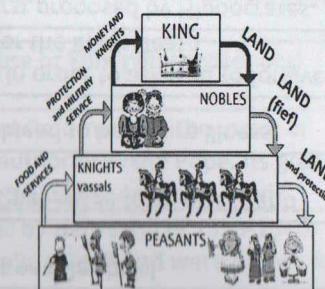


Key events: Problems faced

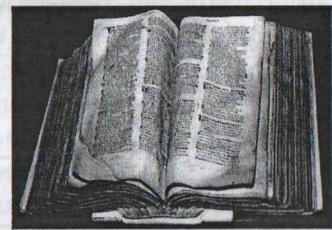
1.	Short term	Threat of invasion from the North; many English Lords did not accept his control and many of Harold's supporters were still in London.
2.	Long term	Needed to collect taxes but to do this he needed to find out who owned what and needed to make sure the whole country was under his control. This resulted in creating the Feudal system, the Domesday book and building castles.

Key events: The Feudal System

After taking the throne in 1066, William had a few problems: he doesn't trust the English lords, who do not like him, he had to force the English to accept him as King and many were rebelling and fighting against him. He had to pay the French knights who helped him win the throne. His solution was to crush the rebellions and take land from the English lords to give to his supporters. He then had his supporters helping him to control the whole country. He also set up the Feudal System which forced the English to give William their taxes and loyalty in return for protection and land to farm. William was at the top of this system as he had all the land and money, which he gave to the Barons. They promise William their money, soldiers and loyalty. They give the land to the Knights in return for loyalty and military service. Finally the knights give the land to the peasant to farm in return for money and services.



Feudal Pyramid of Power



Key events: Domesday Book

In 1086, William sent out surveyors to every part of England, with orders to list:

- How much land there was
- Who had owned it in 1066 and who owned it now
- What was the place like and who lived there
- How much was it worth in 1066 and how much now.

William did this to allow him to effectively tax the land and earn money and so that he knew what could be seized if the landowners didn't show loyalty.