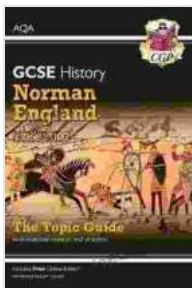


Grade GCSE History AQA Topic Guide: Norman England, c.1066-1100

The Norman Conquest of 1066 was a pivotal moment in English history. It marked the end of the Anglo-Saxon era and the beginning of Norman rule. The Normans brought with them a new language, culture, and political system, which had a profound impact on the development of England. This topic guide will provide an overview of the key events and developments of the Norman period, c.1066-1100.

The Norman Conquest

The Norman Conquest began with the invasion of England by William, Duke of Normandy, in 1066. William claimed the English throne on the basis that he was a descendant of Edward the Confessor, the last Anglo-Saxon king. William's invasion force landed at Pevensey Bay in September 1066. They marched inland and defeated the English army at the Battle of Hastings on October 14, 1066.



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Language : English

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After the Battle of Hastings, William was crowned King of England. He began to establish his authority over the country by building castles and appointing Norman nobles to positions of power. William also introduced a new system of government, which was based on the feudal system.

Norman Rule

The Norman Conquest had a profound impact on the development of England. The Normans brought with them a new language, culture, and political system. French became the language of the ruling class, and Norman customs and traditions were adopted by the English. The feudal system introduced by the Normans divided society into three main classes: the nobility, the clergy, and the peasantry.

The Norman kings also played an important role in the development of the English legal system. William I ordered the compilation of the Domesday Book, which was a survey of all the land in England. The Domesday Book provided the Norman kings with a valuable source of information about their new kingdom.

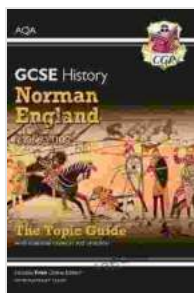
The Impact of the Norman Conquest

The Norman Conquest had a lasting impact on the development of England. The Normans introduced a new language, culture, and political system, which had a profound impact on the country. The feudal system introduced by the Normans divided society into three main classes: the nobility, the clergy, and the peasantry.

The Norman Conquest also led to the development of a new English identity. The Normans and the English gradually merged to form a new people, the Anglo-Normans. The Anglo-Normans developed a new

language, culture, and political system, which was distinct from both the Norman and the Anglo-Saxon traditions.

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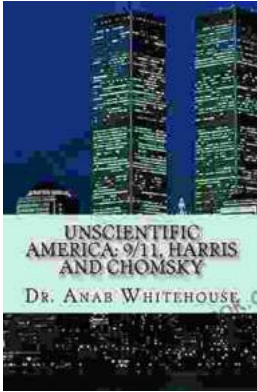
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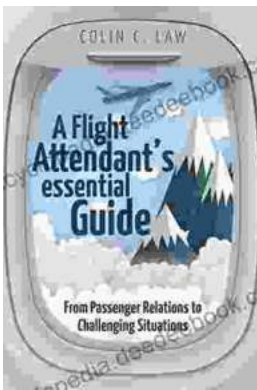
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