



# The Norman Conquest



## Learning Objective:

To understand William's problems after the Battle of Hastings

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Can you remember what happened at the  
**Battle of Hastings?**

With a partner, retell the main events in  
chronological order.

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An artist's impression of William after he won the Battle of Hastings

Although William was victorious at the Battle of Hastings, he still faced many **problems** before he was officially crowned the king of England.

What might these problems have been?



Think, pair, then share your ideas.

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On the following slides, we are going to look at each of William's **problems** in turn.

For each one, you will be shown three different **solutions**.



Decide which solution you think William chose, and tell your partner why.



We will then see which solution was actually chosen by William!



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**Next**

**PROBLEM:** There were still lots of soldiers who were loyal to King Harold in a castle in Dover.

Which solution do you think William chose?



**Solution A**

Their king is dead, so they probably won't want to fight any more. Just leave them there.



**Solution B**

Go and kill these soldiers immediately before they can cause any trouble.



**Solution C**

Ask them if they want to join the Norman army, and swear loyalty to you.

Let's see what William chose to do...

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**William chose Solution B.**

Why do you think he chose this solution?

**Back**

**Next**

**PROBLEM:** There were still some English soldiers in London who did not march to Hastings with Harold.

Which solution do you think William chose?



### **Solution A**

Show that you are in charge by going to London and killing anyone who stands against you.



### **Solution B**

There are only a few of them left. They will not bother you. Leave them alone.



### **Solution C**

Don't tire your army out by marching to London. If they want to fight, they can come to you.

Let's see what William chose to do...

**Back**

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### **Solution C**

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**William chose Solution A.**

Why do you think he chose this solution?

**Back**

**Next**

**PROBLEM:** Many people in the North of England still supported invasion by the Vikings rather than accepting William as King.

Which solution do you think William chose?



**Solution A**

Ruling the entire country will be difficult. Give the north to the Vikings.



**Solution B**

It looks like ruling England will be too much trouble. Go back to Normandy.



**Solution C**

Punish the north by killing the rebels and destroying crops, cattle, food, houses and land.

Let's see what William chose to do...

**Back**

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It looks like ruling England will be too much trouble. Go back to Normandy.



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**William chose Solution C.**

Why do you think he chose this solution?

**Back**

**Next**

**PROBLEM:** Some powerful landowners wanted to put a royal prince called Edgar Atheling, a boy of 15, on the throne instead.

Which solution do you think William chose?



### **Solution A**

Kill the landowners and the prince. You have come too far to let a boy of 15 take the throne from you!



### **Solution B**

Send soldiers to kidnap Edgar Atheling and keep him as a hostage.



### **Solution C**

Make a deal with the landowners. If they are loyal to you instead of Edgar Atheling, you will let them keep their lands.

Let's see what William chose to do...

**Back**

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**William chose Solution C.**

Why do you think he chose this solution?

**Back**

**Next**

**PROBLEM:** William needed more money to pay his Norman army to help him keep control of England.

Which solution do you think William chose?



### **Solution A**

Send a letter to your friends in Normandy explaining the situation and asking if they can lend you some money.



### **Solution B**

If you are the king of England, all of the land belongs to you!  
Make the people pay you more money in taxes for living on your land.



### **Solution C**

Send your soldiers around the country to kill people and steal their money and other valuable objects.

Let's see what William chose to do...

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**William chose Solution B.**

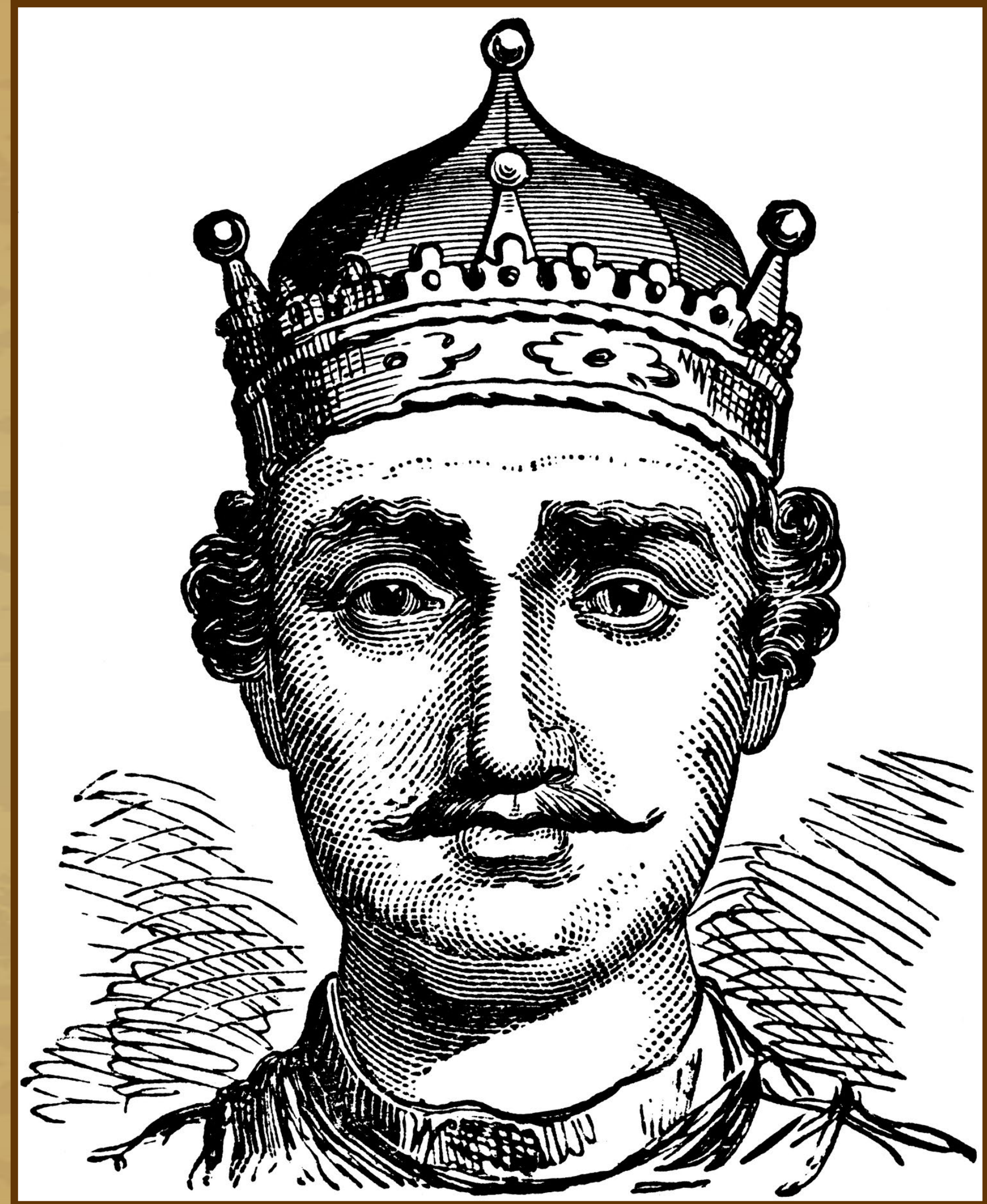
Why do you think he chose this solution?

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For how many of the problems did you correctly pick the solution that William chose?



The solutions that William chose to these problems served him well. He was crowned King of England on 25th December, 1066. Nowadays, he is often referred to as **William the Conqueror**.

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Now it is time for you look a little more closely at William's problems and his chosen solutions in your own work.



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## Plenary:

**“William was a cruel, bloodthirsty, power-seeking man who killed people unnecessarily.”**

**“William was a strong leader who had to make tough decisions about difficult problems.”**



Which of these two statements do you most agree with?

**Think, pair, then share your opinions.**

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