

Battle of Hastings Teacher's Notes B1

This B1-level article will introduce your pupils a major event in English history, the Battle of Hastings in 1066, which ushered in 400 years of Norman rule of England. After William the Conqueror won the English crown, French became the legal language of England for 300 years. There are lots of ways to use this topic in an EPI with French, History, Art or German in 3^{ème}. See the end of this document.

Vocabulary and structures:

- simple present, simple past, past perfect
- passive voice
- dates
- compass points and geography
- royalty
- military vocabulary
- writing a summary

Interaction

- We suggest video projecting the article and starting by asking students to look at the images to say what they can.

Describing a visual: the Bayeux tapestry

Have pupils describe the tapestry. Introduce useful vocabulary (knights, coat of arm, shield, arrow, helmet, etc.). Have pupils notice the Latin words and ask them why Latin was then used (it was the noble language then).

Reading + interaction

- We suggest reading the article as a class and checking comprehension as you go along. **Activity A**, filling in a map, will help consolidate comprehension.

Reading + Writing

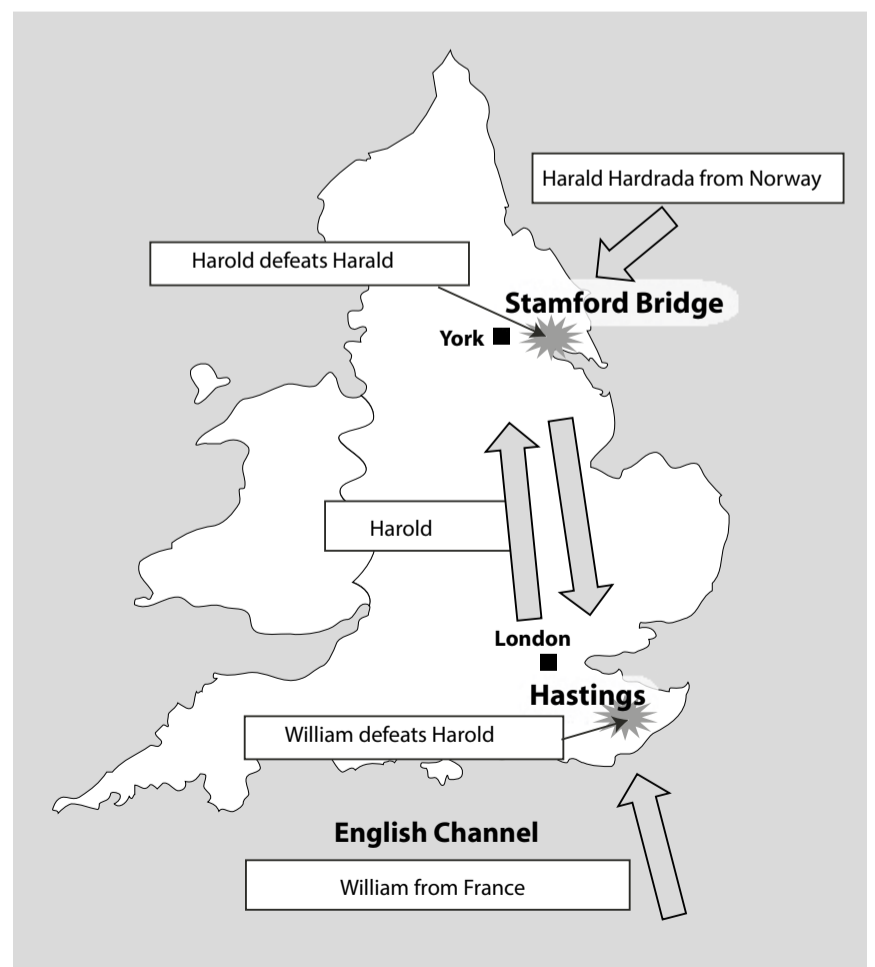
- Pupils can then do Activity B, which asks them to transform a paragraph from past to present, but which will allow you to check their comprehension of the main points.

Writing

- **Activity C** Pupils are then asked to mobilise what they have learned by writing a paragraph, using the article as a model but including new facts. Before they start writing, ask them to go through the article and highlight link words and expressions (*and, so, but, contrary to, at the same time, when, also, however*). See if pupils can suggest others. You could set a number of words and/or a number of link words for them to include in their paragraph.

Solutions

A.



B. is / die / leads / is created / becomes / dies / becomes / says / has promised / starts / decides / marches / defeats / arrives / hears / is / makes / is / dies / wins / is crowned .

C. Possible answer

William, Duke of Normandy, King of England

William the Conqueror was probably born in 1028. He was the illegitimate son of Robert, Duke of Normandy. His mother, Herleva, was the daughter of a tanner. Despite being illegitimate, William became Duke when his father died in 1035. His childhood was dangerous, because there were lots of rebellions and his guardian was murdered. In 1053 William married Matilda of Flanders. William's cousin, Edward the Confessor, was King of England and he promised the throne of England to William. So when Edward died in 1066, and Harold, Duke of Wessex, became king, William decided to invade England. He won the Battle of Hastings and thanks to his victory, he became king of England. From 1066 to 1081, there were lots of rebellions in Britain, but William spent most of his time in France. When he died, his son Robert received his French lands and titles, whereas his son William Rufus became king of England.

Pistes EPI

Thématiques EPI : Langues et cultures étrangères et régionales / Culture et création artistiques.

Matières concernées :

Langues et cultures étrangères (réfléchir sur la production du vocabulaire et le sens des mots, aborder l'histoire des langues, construire des stratégies d'apprentissage communes aux langues étudiées).

Français (étude d'albums de bande dessinée, en lien avec le thème 2 du programme de 3e : "Dénoncer les travers de la société")

Histoire des arts (thème 2 : "Formes et circulations artistiques au IXe-XVe siècles")

Arts plastiques (la représentation ; images, réalité et fiction).

Pistes de travail et projet :

On parle beaucoup à l'heure actuelle des anglicismes liés à l'importance de la langue anglaise dans nos sociétés. Des termes comme "parking", "brain-storming" ou encore "digital" sont entrés dans le vocabulaire courant. Mais les élèves savent-ils que les termes anglais "flirt", "stress" et "tennis" sont des dérivés du français "fleureter", "détresse" et "tenez" ? En effet, le français fut pendant longtemps la langue officielle de la cour anglaise. Afin d'étudier l'influence de la langue française sur la langue anglaise, les élèves étudieront l'étymologie de certains termes anglais, à travers des extraits d'œuvres française et anglaise du Moyen Âge.

Autre piste : les élèves effectueront un travail sur la bande-dessinée, avec pour point de départ la tapisserie de Bayeux, considérée comme la première bande-dessinée européenne. Ils pourront à cette occasion découvrir des bandes dessinées comme Prince Valiant et Chevalier Ardent.

À l'issue de ce travail, les élèves réaliseront une bande-dessinée comparant l'influence actuelle de l'anglais sur le français et le phénomène inverse datant du Moyen Âge, avec des saynètes représentant des situations actuelles et anciennes, le tout sur un ton satirique.

Ce travail pourra éventuellement faire intervenir l'allemand.