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# Yr 7 Assessment 1 - Why did William Win? Markscheme

*Students will have been given a writing template and two sources to work from in the assessment: the sources are reprinted here for ease of use.*

***Source 1***

*“William’s army advanced steadily in good order. They carried the Pope’s banner proudly at their head. In front, William placed foot soldiers with crossbows and arrows; second came his heavily armed infantry, clad in hauberks (coats of mail): finally came the squadrons of knights. In their midst, William sat proudly astride his horse, controlling the whole army.*

*Harold’s army was a vast host, gathered from all the provinces of England and reinforced by their allies, the Danes. They did not dare to fight on equal terms, so they took up their position on a hill with a forest behind them. They dismounted and drew themselves up in close order on foot...*

*The Norman foot soldiers then attacked, in spite of the difficulty of the ground. They hurled spears and javelins at the English. The latter resisted bravely and returned the fire with spears, axes and stones. It seemed that our troops would be overwhelmed by the missiles.*

*Then our knights crashed into the enemy with their shields, anxious to use their swords at close quarters. The English remained on high ground and kept close order. They were also superior in numbers and in the way their spears broke our shields. Thus they pushed our knights down the hill.”*

*At this point the Normans thought William had been killed. He was nowhere to be seen. Suddenly!*

*“William stood boldly in front of those in flight. “Look at me well, I am still alive”. He restored their courage and our knights turned to face the following English and cut them down...*

*Heartened by their success our men marched up the hill a second time. They realized they would suffer heavy losses, but then remembered the trick of retreating. They turned around and pretended to die. Several thousand English quickly gave pursuit. The Normans suddenly turned their horses, surrounded the enemy and cut them down. Twice this trick was employed with great success and at last the English tired under constant pressure...” The Normans finally won the battle.*

*Written by a Norman soldier in 1071. He was not present at the battle, but he later became William’s chaplain (personal priest).*

***Source 2***

*“After the battle of Stamford Bridge, the King heard of Duke William’s arrival with a huge army at Pevensey. He marched with all haste to London. He knew that many of his men had died at Stamford Bridge and that much of his army had not yet arrived. Yet he continued with all speed into Sussex to meet his enemy. On 22nd October, before a third of his army had arrived, he joined battle with William. The English army had a very small space; and many soldiers, seeing the difficult position, deserted King Harold. Even so he fought bravely from dawn til dusk, and the enemy’s army made little impression upon him until, after a great slaughter on both sides, the King, alas, fell. Nearly all the barons of England died with him”.*

*Written by a Saxon monk, much later.*

**NC Levels to be awarded**

**L3** - General overview of the battle giving between one and three causes for William’s victory.

**L4** – Clear description and categorisation of some causes of the Battle of Hastings using key terms. For example explaining that Harold was unlucky with the wind changing direction whilst he was at Stamford Bridge.

**L5** – A clear description and explanation of the causes of the Battle of Hastings with simple links made between one or two different causes. For example William was lucky that when the wind changed Harold was not only a long way away at Stamford Bridge but had also just had to fight a battle against the Vikings of Harald Hardrada. Some use of sources.

**L6** – Clear explanation of a few causes of William’s victory and assessment of their relative importance. For example – ‘William’s preparations led to him introducing cavalry. This was the most important reason for Harold’s defeat.’ Effective use of sources.

**Level 7-8** – Students can analyse all causes of William’s victory AND Harold’s defeat by assessing their relative importance. Excellent, integrated use of sources.

**Grades to be awarded**

Levels 7-8 – A\*

Level 6 – A

Level 5 – B

Level 4 – C

Level 3 - D

Keywords to look for:

Halley’s Comet Papal banner leadership Stamford Bridge Fulford Earl Tostig Edwin and Morcar Fyrd Housecarls