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| CLAIMANT | CLAIM | THINGS IN FAVOUR | THINGS AGAINST |
| Harold GodwinssonEarl of Wessex | Brother in law to Edward | * He is English
* The most powerful noble in England
* Apparently, Edward favoured Harold from his deathbed.
 | * He had rebelled against Edward earlier in his reign.
* Not well favoured by other nobles.
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| Harald HardradaKing of Norway | ‘Right’ to rule as in line of Viking rulers since King Cnut. | * Viking rulers had ruled in England but Edward had seized the throne from them in 1042.
* Many Viking descendants lived in Northern England.
 | * Not a blood relation to Edward
* A ‘foreigner’
* An ‘enemy’ as he planned to invade.
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| William Duke of Normandy | Cousin to Edward | * Edward had promised him the throne (apparently)
* Harold Godwinsson had sworn an oath to let William become king.
* William helped Edward in times of trouble with Vikings and Earls of Wessex.
 | * A ‘foreigner’
* Harold’s ‘oath’ to help William become king was made under threat. Hence, it was not freely given (under duress) and could not stand.
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| Edgar Aetheling  | Nephew of Edward  | * Member of the English royal family.
 | * Only 12 years old
* Unknown in England as born in Hungary.
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