

Anglo Saxon



- Harold Godwinson was English
- He said that he had been chosen by Edward the Confessor to be the next King of England. He said King Edward's dying words were: "**I commend all my kingdom to your care**"
- He was related by marriage to the old king Edward the Confessor. He was his **brother-in-law**.
- He was an **experienced soldier** and had won many battles for Edward
- He was the **richest man** in England and the most powerful Earl.
- All the important people in England supported him.
- He **did not** always have a good relationship with the old king.
- He tried to **take power** once before and had been banished to France
- He had no blood link to the old King

Viking



- He was the grandson of **King Canute the Great**, who had been the last Viking king of England 50 years ago.
- He was already a successful **King of Norway**, he knew how to rule.
- He was a very tough leader, his name meant "**Hard-Ruler**"
- He was a very **experienced soldier** and won many battles on his way to become King of Norway
- England had been ruled by Viking kings for many years before the Anglo Saxon **Edward the Confessor** took power.
- He was **not related** to the old king, Edward the Confessor.
- He was **not English** and spoke a different language.
- He was miles away in **Norway** and he had little support in England.

Norman



- Duke William of Normandy was a **distant cousin** of the old king, Edward the Confessor
- William said that Edward the Confessor had **chosen him** to be the next King
- He was an **experienced and successful** ruler of Normandy
- William claimed Harold Godwinson had made a **promise** to him to **support** William's claim to the throne.
- The **Pope** in Rome supported William of Normandy.
- William was a Norman and he spoke a **different language**.
- **Nobody in England** seemed to want him, they all supported Harold Godwinson instead.