

Brain in Gear

Answer the 4 mark GCSE question.

EXTENSION:

Explain the technique you used to answer these three questions – how did that ensure you got full marks?

How to answer a 16 mark
“Do you agree...” question.

Identify the key words in this question:

These are the key words – your whole answer must be laser focused on challenging or supporting this statement.

You can agree or disagree but you must choose a side – don't hedge by saying you agree with both sides.

Question 3:

“The most **effective method** that William used **to establish control** over the Anglo-Saxons was by **replacing the Anglo-Saxon ruling class with Normans.**” How far do you agree with this statement?

You may use the following in your answer:

- Tenants-in-Chief
- The Harrying of the North

You **must** also use information of your own.

In this question you also get two hints about things you could mention. These can help you structure your answer or you can talk about other relevant information

Remember, to get more than half marks you need to think about another example of knowledge to include.

(16 marks + 4 SPAG)

These are the only questions that include spelling and grammar. Double check your capital letters and spellings if you have time.

What **structure** would you use for your answer?

Think about how many paragraphs you would need to write to answer this question fully.

What would each paragraph be about?

16 mark “Do you agree...” – Essay Plan

Paragraph 1: **Introduction** – Say if you agree or disagree

Paragraph 2: **Reasons to agree** – Use your knowledge to support the statement and give reasons why it is correct

Paragraph 3: **Reasons to disagree** – Use your own knowledge to challenge the statement and suggest another answer.

Paragraph 4: **Additional knowledge** – You can support or challenge the statement in this paragraph. Add more knowledge and examples to back up your points (*Top level answers may have 2-3 extra paragraphs of detail*)

Paragraph 5: **Conclusion** – Compare the two arguments and explain why you agree with one over the other.

How do you make an essay plan?

Agree – William's landholding revolution was effective

- Effectively removed A/S from power - 180 Tenants-in-chief (2 Anglo-Saxons)
- Land holding very important – Tax / Fyrd
- Removed their base of power (land) – William owned all land, A/S thegns had to be obedient or forfeit
- No A/S rebellions after 1071 AD

Disagree – Other methods were more effective

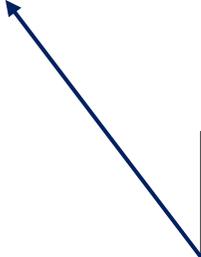
- Royal power – Oath taking
- Castles – Intimidation (Edwin / Morcar) Strategic locations etc
- Harrying of the North – killed everyone

The anatomy of a paragraph

William's changes to land ownership and the ruling class in England following his victory at Hastings were hugely effective at controlling the local Anglo-Saxon population. Between 1066 and 1087 practically the entire Anglo-Saxon ruling class had been replaced by Normans. Under King Edward the Confessor, Anglo-Saxon earls had been incredibly powerful. Earls like Harold Godwinson held vast earldoms, granting them incredible wealth and power. William spent years breaking down the powers of these earls and redistributing it into more trustworthy hands. William claimed ownership over every tract of land in the country and made it much easier to take land from troublesome earls or thegns. The main ways this happened was through forfeit, which is when a rebellious earl lost their land, and by creating new, smaller earldoms. This gave him huge power of the Anglo-Saxon earls and thegns, as their own power came directly from the land they ruled. Land ownership brought with it the ability to gain large amounts of tax revenue and provided military power in the form of the local fyrd. Any Anglo-Saxon that rebelled against their Norman lords faced permanently losing everything that made them strong. This was very effective and through these methods, by 1087, 188 of William's 190 tenants-in-chief were Normans. The remaining Anglo-Saxon thegns who now served these lords were too weak individually to effectively challenge them. They were forced to be obedient if they wanted to hold on to what little land they still had. This was clearly an effective method of control because after 1071 there was no serious threat to William from Anglo-Saxon rebels.

The anatomy of a paragraph

William's changes to land ownership and the ruling class in England following his victory at Hastings were hugely effective at controlling the local Anglo-Saxon population.



A "topic sentence" sets out the main argument the paragraph will make.

The anatomy of a paragraph

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This part of the paragraph shows the writer's knowledge – it's important to establish the context for your argument with as much precise detail as you know.

The anatomy of a paragraph

Here is the analysis – The question asked about a effective methods of control so we have explained why the landholding changes were so effective. The final sentence references the question statement to keep our argument focused.



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The anatomy of a paragraph

Have a go at writing your own paragraph. Focus on including:

- A topic sentence that explains what you will argue
- Examples of your own relevant knowledge.
- An analysis of why that knowledge is relevant that links to the question
- A summary sentence that refers back to the question

What's in a **conclusion**?

Your main paragraphs contain your explanation for why different factors are relevant to the question

Your conclusion is where you **directly compare** those factors and analyse which you think is more correct. A good structure looks like this:

*Overall I agree / disagree with the statement. Both **A** and **B** are hugely significant, but in my opinion I think that **A** is the more significant discovery and is the main turning point for the period. Even though... (explain why **B** is important), I still think that **A** is more significant because...*

This shows that both factors are relevant, and gives you the chance to make a strong argument in your favour.