

## The Battle of Hastings

In 1066, three men \_\_\_\_\_(to be) fighting to be King of England: William of Normandy, Harold Godwinson and Harald Hardrada.

Harold Godwinson \_\_\_\_\_(to be) crowned king on 6th January 1066. William and Harald \_\_\_\_\_(not to be) happy. They both \_\_\_\_\_(to prepare) to invade England in order to kill King Harold and become king themselves.

Harald Hardrada \_\_\_\_\_(to attack) from the north of England on 25th September. However, he \_\_\_\_\_(to be) killed in battle and his army \_\_\_\_\_(to be) defeated by King Harold's army.

Two days later, William of Normandy \_\_\_\_\_(to land) in the south and \_\_\_\_\_(to begin) to attack the surrounding countryside.

King Harold \_\_\_\_\_(to march) his tired troops 300 kilometres to meet them. Eight days later, Harold and his men \_\_\_\_\_(to reach) London. William \_\_\_\_\_(to send) a messenger to London. The message \_\_\_\_\_(to try) to get Harold to accept William as the true King of England. Harold \_\_\_\_\_(not to accept) it, and was angered by William's request.

Harold's troops \_\_\_\_\_(to be) very tired and they \_\_\_\_\_(not to have) time to prepare for the battle.

However, Harold and his men \_\_\_\_\_(to arrive) in Hastings ready to fight. They \_\_\_\_\_(to capture) a hill (now known as Battle Hill) and set up a fortress surrounded with sharp stakes.

On 14th October, the battle \_\_\_\_\_(to begin). William's troops \_\_\_\_\_(to race) up the hill on foot to attack Harold's army. It \_\_\_\_\_(to be) hard running up hill and they \_\_\_\_\_(not can) break Harold's shield wall. The battle \_\_\_\_\_(to last) for around thirty minutes and William's forces \_\_\_\_\_(to suffer) heavy losses.

Next, William \_\_\_\_\_(to order) his troops to race up the hill on horses. They too \_\_\_\_\_(to be) unsuccessful and \_\_\_\_\_(not to break) Harold's wall.

Many hours later, William's troops \_\_\_\_\_(can) break through Harold's shield wall. The two sides \_\_\_\_\_(to fight) hand to hand and William \_\_\_\_\_(to win).

After the battle, William \_\_\_\_\_(to become) the new King of England.