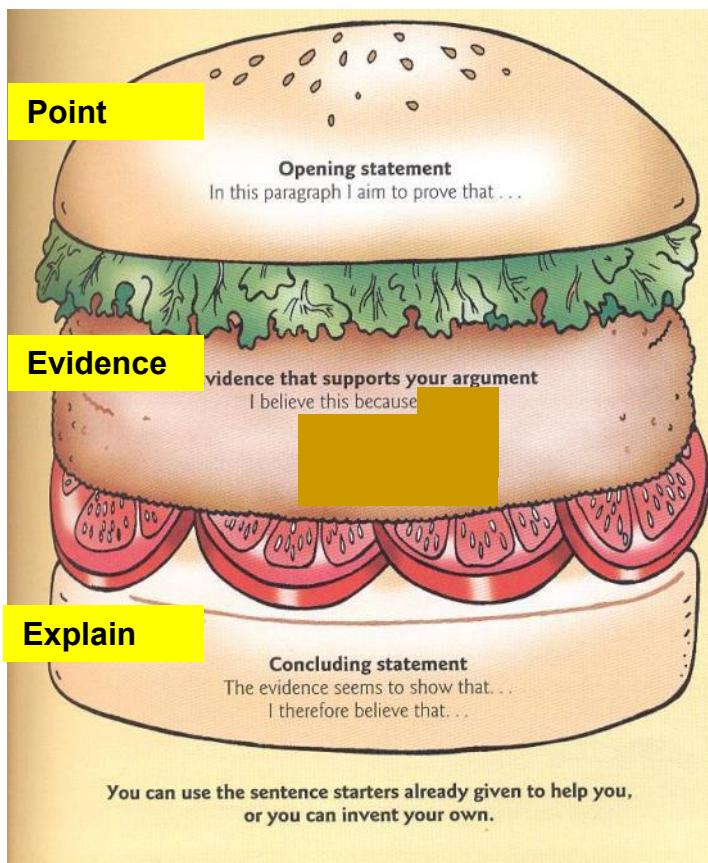


Who should be the next king of England in 1066?

Today I will practise...

- **Writing skills:** learning how to write a structured paragraph about the Middle Ages using 'Point-Evidence-Explain'
- **And** using names, dates and key historical terms to make my writing precise.



POINT:

I aim to prove that _____ should be the next king of England.

EVIDENCE:

Firstly, my man is well-connected to Edward because...
Secondly, he will make a good king of England because...
Another reason he should be king is he is brilliant at...

EXPLAIN:

I therefore believe that _____ should be the next king of England.

Success Criteria: Who should be the next king of England in 1066?

1. Good presentation of work
(neat, with a title and date, underlined)

3. Has used detailed evidence, with lots of examples and dates/names

2. Uses the Point-Evidence-Explain structure

Who should be the next king of England in 1066?

Harald Hardrada, King of Norway



Harald Hardrada was born in 1016 and was the half-brother of Olaf II, King of Norway. Harald's name 'Hardrada' meant 'hard-ruler' and was given to him because of his fierce reputation and warrior skills. He is widely regarded as the best soldier in the world.

In 1016, his relative Canute (King Cnut) had taken over the throne in England and ruled until 1032. Later, Canute's son Harthacanute had ruled England from 1040-1042. The family stopped ruling England when the Anglo-Saxon man called Edward the Confessor took over the throne, on Harthacanute's death - even though Hardrada's family had been promised the throne on Harthacanute's death.

In 1045 he became King of Norway and over the next few years had a long war with Denmark, which ended in peace in 1064.

In early 1066 Tostig, Earl of Northumbria and brother of Harold of Wessex (Harold Godwinson), had travelled to Norway and promised to support him if he invaded England to claim the throne. There were many Vikings (who had come from Norway and Denmark) living in the north of England.

Harald Hardrada would give his supporters, mostly from Norway, lots of power in England if he gets the throne.

Who should be the next king of England in 1066?

Harold Godwinson,
Earl of Wessex



Harold, the son of Earl Godwin of Wessex, was born in about 1022.

By the time Edward the Confessor became King in 1042, Harold's father Godwin had become the most powerful Anglo-Saxon in England. His daughter Edith was even married to the King. However, Edward's vow of celibacy meant that they never produced an heir to the throne. After Godwin's death Harold went on to become the most important and experienced nobleman in England. He has the support of most of the important people in England.

Despite his father's battles with Edward, Harold remained a loyal supporter of the King. In 1063 he successfully led an English army against the Welsh. In 1064, after having had been shipwrecked and captured in Normandy, Harold fought alongside William, Duke of Normandy. As a reward Duke William knighted him. In 1065 Harold protected the King from rebellion by Harold's brother, Tostig.

Harold was at the King's bedside when Edward died on 5th January 1066 and claimed to have been promised the throne by the dying King.

Who should be the next king of England in 1066?

William, Duke of Normandy

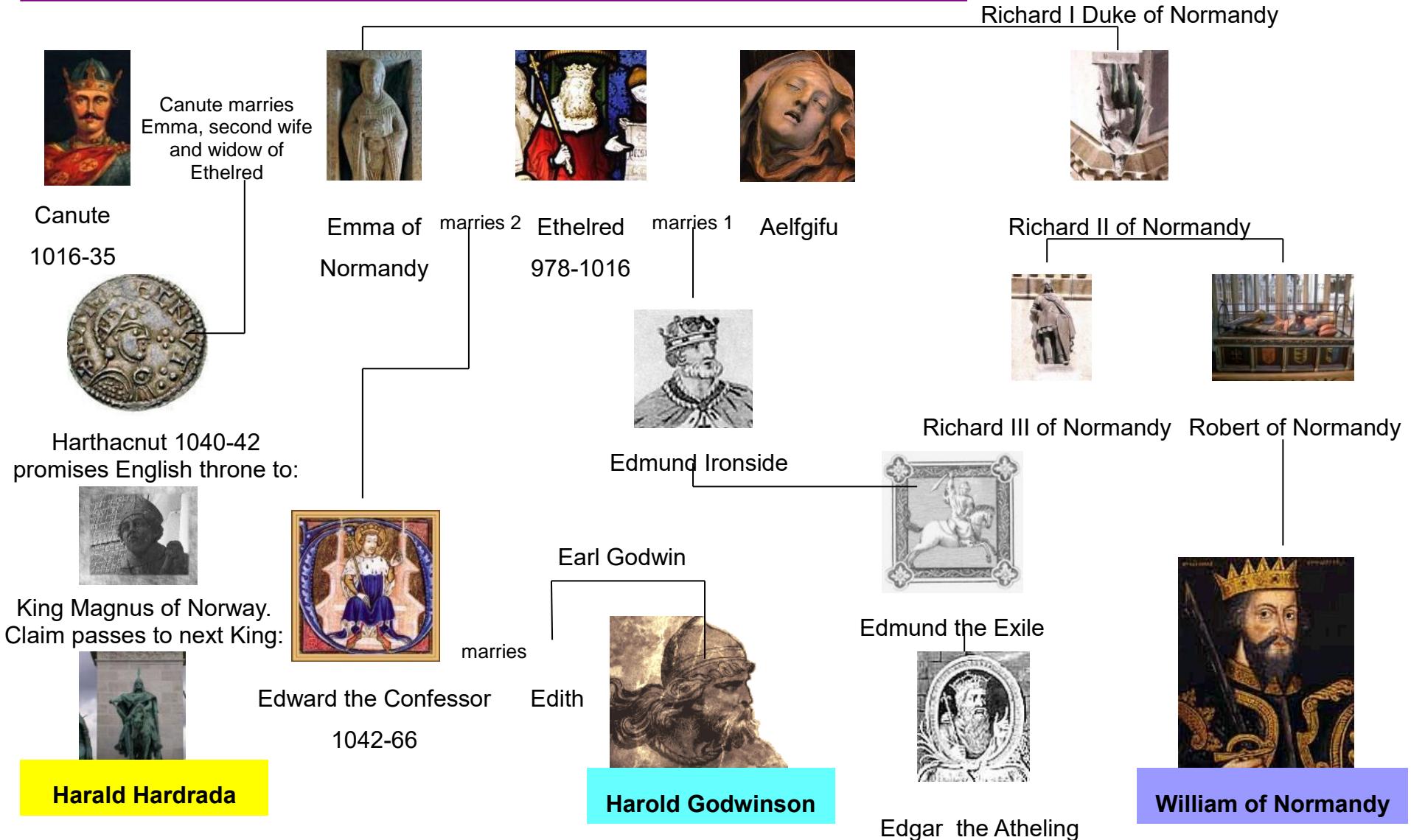


William, son of Robert, Duke of Normandy, was born in 1027 and inherited his father's title in 1035 at only 8 years old. After help from his guardians, he began to govern Normandy in 1045. His great aunt, Emma, was Edward the Confessor's mother. However, William's parents were not married at the time he was born and therefore William is known throughout Europe as 'Guillaume le Batard' ('William the Bastard').

William's family had protected the young Edward (the Confessor) when Edward's family was forced to leave England under threat from the family of Harald Hardrada. Later, as Duke of Normandy, he sent soldiers to England to help protect Edward's crown from rebellion. As a reward, William was apparently promised the throne on Edward's death.

William's land was often under threat, and he so he used English support to protect his land in Normandy in France. In 1064, he received help on one of his campaigns from Harold Godwinson, who had been shipwrecked and captured on the coast of Normandy. For his help, William knighted Harold. During the ceremony, William claimed that Harold made a promise that he would do his best to help William become king when Edward the Confessor died. Having sworn on holy relics, (the best promise Harold could make), William gained the backing of the Pope (the most important church man in Europe) for his claim to the English throne.

Can you use this family tree to help you think about your man's connection to Edward?



In summary...

Harald Hadrada *inherited* his claim to the English throne from a previous king of Norway (King Canute)– but he wasn't *related* by blood to Canute. Therefore, he wasn't related by blood to Edward the Confessor.

Harold Godwinson was related to Edward the Confessor because his sister was married to Edward. This made Harold Godwinson the brother-in-law of Edward. However, this was relation *through marriage*, and Harold wasn't a *blood* relation.

William of Normandy was a blood relative of Edward the Confessor, but it wasn't a close connection. He was related through his grandfather. William's great aunt, Emma, was his grandfather's sister. Emma was the mother of Edward the Confessor.