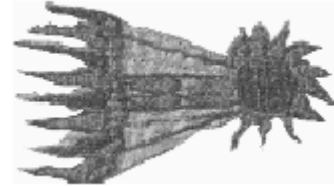




# 1066

By Miss Boughey  
[www.SchoolHistory.co.uk](http://www.SchoolHistory.co.uk)

In 1066 people in England saw a bright star in the sky. They thought that it was a sign that something bad was going to happen. 1066 was going to be a bad year.



In 1016 the Danish king Canute had taken over England and added it to his lands in Norway and Denmark. When King Canute died in 1042 Edward the Confessor became King of England.

Edward the Confessor died in 1066 and he had no sons who could be king of England. He had no heir.

## Who would be king next?

There were three main people who thought that they should be King of England next...

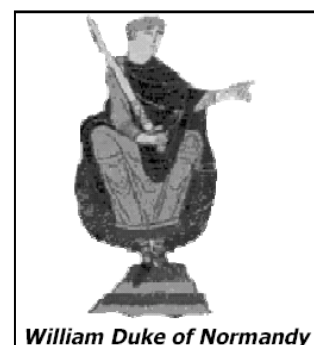
These were:



**Harold Godwinson**



**Harald Hadrada**



**William Duke of Normandy**

These three people all believed that they should be king of England. There was a fourth person called Edgar Aetheling, but he did not try to be King of England until after the Battle of Hastings.

Copy and complete the tasks on the next page in your book to see why they all felt that they would make the best English king.

# Tasks

1. Copy the underlined paragraph off the previous page and then draw the star in your book.
2. Copy out the passage below using the missing word list to help you fill in the blanks.

Choose from this list:

Harold Godwinson	William	Edward	Edgar	Norway
Harald Hardraada	1066	Normandy	agree	crown

In 1\_\_\_\_\_ the English King E\_\_\_\_\_ the Confessor died. He had no children to follow him but chose H\_\_\_\_\_ G\_\_\_\_\_ as the new king when he died. There was one young relative, a boy called E\_\_\_\_\_ but the most important and wise men in England wanted Harold to be King of England. These men were called the Witan.

Two other men both felt that they should also be king. The names of these men were W\_\_\_\_\_ Duke of N\_\_\_\_\_ and H\_\_\_\_\_ H\_\_\_\_\_ who King of Norway.

William argued that he had been promised the c\_\_\_\_\_ by Edward and Harold Godwinson. Harald Hardraada said that England had been part of Norway so he should be king. They could not a\_\_\_\_\_ who should be king so that they would have to have a fight.