

Year 7 December Exam Mark Scheme
50-minute exam – Marked out of 28 (inclusive of 4 marks SPaG)

Marking Guidance:

It is essential that the same marking standard is applied across the Trust. As with exam board mark schemes, it is a case of applying the mark scheme as accurately and consistently as possible. Do not attempt to apply your own standard. You may see the example answers as too easy/hard, but this is the standard you must apply to ensure we have parity between schools so that fair comparisons can be made.

Question 1 (4 marks):

<p>a) Which option best completes the following sentence: <i>The discovery of the Beachy Head Woman and the Ivory Bangle Lady shows that early migration to Britain...</i></p>	<p>a) only happened after the Norman Conquest in 1066.</p> <p>b) included people from diverse backgrounds</p> <p>c) was only of people from Europe</p>
<p>b) Which option best completes the following sentence: <i>The Silk Roads were important because they allowed...</i></p>	<p>a) only silk to be traded between China and Rome</p> <p>b) goods, ideas, religions, and cultures to travel between different parts of the world</p> <p>c) armies to travel quickly from one empire to another without trading anything</p>
<p>c) Which option best completes the following sentence: <i>William of Normandy believed he had a strong claim to the English throne because...</i></p>	<p>a) he was the son of Edward the Confessor.</p> <p>b) he had been promised the throne by Edward the Confessor.</p> <p>c) he was the preferred choice of the Witan to be the next king.</p>
<p>d) Which option best completes the following sentence: <i>The Silk Roads were important because they allowed...</i></p>	<p>a) William had defeated Harold Godwinson before.</p> <p>b) The Pope gave William a banner to show that God was on his side.</p> <p>c) Harold Godwinson had been killed at the battle of Stamford Bridge.</p>

Question 2 (8 marks):

- a) 476CE was the year that the Western **Roman** Empire fell.
- b) In 793CE, the Vikings attacked **Lindisfarne** monastery.
- c) Empress **Zoe** ruled alongside different husbands and sometimes on her own in Constantinople.
- d) Boudicca led a **rebellion** against the Romans in England.
- e) **Edward** was the English king who died childless in 1066.
- f) The first Norman castles were called **Motte and Bailey** castles.
- g) **100,000** people died in the Harrying of the North.
- h) Harald Hardrada was from **Norway**

Question 3 (4 marks):

Source Analysis – Use Source A to find evidence for the questions that follow.

Source A – An extract from Chapter 23 of Gildas's *De Excidio et Conquestu Britanniae* (6th century). Gildas was a 6th century church leader. Here he describes the arrival and betrayal of the Saxons in Britain.

The leaders of Britain, including the proud king Vortigern, made a terrible mistake. They invited the Saxons – fierce and dangerous warriors from across the sea – to come and help protect them from enemies in the north. But instead of helping, the Saxons turned on the Britons. They brought more of their people in ships, and it was said they would stay for many years, stealing and destroying the land.

3a. Who had the leaders of Britain invited to help them? (1 mark)

The Saxons

3b. What did the visitors do instead of helping? (1 mark)

Turned on the Britons (also accept stealing/destroying the land)

3c. What can you suggest about the impact of the arrival of the visitors? (2 marks)

Level 1 (1 mark):

Simple statement with no supporting detail

e.g. *The Saxons had a bad impact.*

Level 2 (2 marks):

Identified impact with supporting detail

e.g. *The Saxons had a negative impact when they arrived because they destroyed the land.*

Question 4 (8 marks + 4 SpAG):

Tell me the story of how the Normans invaded and conquered England. (8 marks + 4 SPaG)

You might like to use these points in your answer:

- **William's claim to the throne**
- **The Battle of Hastings**
- **Changes William made to control England**

Award marks according to the clarity, accuracy and chronological organisation of the answer.

A high-quality answer will have three paragraphs covering:

1. Events leading up to the invasion
2. The Battle of Hastings
3. William securing control of England

Level (Marks)	Guidance
Level 1 (1-3 marks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited or partially accurate description • Narrative may be unclear, very brief, or mostly descriptive rather than chronological • May mention some key events but with gaps/confusion • May lack paragraph structure <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mentions that William invaded</i> • <i>Vague or confused references to the battle</i> • <i>Little sense of before – during – after</i>
Level 2 (4-6 marks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally accurate narrative with some chronological order • Covers more than one stage of the conquest but may lack detail or miss key steps • Paragraphs may be attempted but not well developed <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mentions Edward the Confessor, Harold, and William</i> • <i>Includes some events of the Battle of Hastings</i> • <i>Some reference to William taking the throne or using castles to secure control</i>
Level 3 (7-8 marks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear, well-structured chronological narrative across three meaningful paragraphs • Accurate details throughout

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sense of a complete story: beginning – middle – end <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Explains why William invaded after Edward's death</i> • <i>Correct sequence: Stamford Bridge – William lands – Hastings</i> • <i>Covers how William secured power afterwards.</i>
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Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar

4 marks:

- Writing is fluent and accurate
- Correct paragraphing (3 clear sections)
- Accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Uses historical terms accurately (e.g. *succession, shield wall, coronation, feigned retreat*)

3 marks:

- Mostly accurate writing; some minor errors
- Paragraphing mostly clear
- Some use of historical terms

2 marks:

- Frequent errors but meaning is usually clear
- Paragraphing attempted but not consistent

1 mark:

- Many errors making meaning difficult
- Weak or absent paragraph structure

0 marks:

- Writing is unclear or incomprehensible