

VOCABULARY!

**Baron**  
A noble who owned land, which would be worked by peasants.

**Clergy**  
Members of the Church.

**Crusades**  
A series of European military campaigns to recover the Holy Land from the Muslims in the 11th, 12th and 13th centuries.

**Ecclesiastical**  
Related to the Church; ecclesiastical courts were special courts where members of the clergy were put on trial for crimes.

**Feudal system**  
A social system in which peasants rented and worked land belonging to nobles in exchange for loyalty.

**Knights**  
Warriors who protected the barons' land and fought for the monarch in times of war.

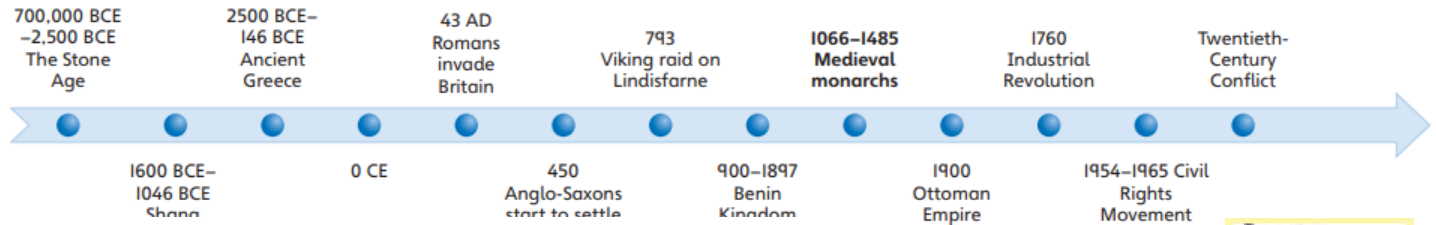
**Magna Carta**  
Literally the 'Great Charter', this document set out certain rights, for barons and the Church, and forced the monarch to follow the law.

**Monarch**  
A king or queen.

**Peasants**  
The poorest people in medieval England, usually farmers.

**Successor**  
Someone who will take over the throne when a monarch dies.

Key facts, places and dates



Major monarchs	
William I (the Conqueror) 1066-1087	A Norman (French) duke who defeated the English King Harold Godwinson at the Battle of Hastings
Henry II 1154-1189	Ruled much of France as well as England, Wales and Scotland; partly responsible for the murder of Thomas Becket
Richard I (the Lionheart) 1189-1199	Led several Crusades in the Middle East. Only spent six months of his ten-year reign in England
John 1199-1216	Unsuccessful in battles and forced to sign the Magna Carta



1066: The Battle of Hastings



Important people	
Harold Godwinson	Was crowned king in 1066, but only ruled for ten months before he was defeated by William I at the Battle of Hastings
Harald Hardrada	Another contender for the English throne in 1066; he was defeated by Harold Godwinson
The Pope	The head of the Church: an extremely powerful figure who could (in theory) command the monarch
Thomas Becket	Chancellor (advisor) to Henry II before becoming Archbishop of Canterbury in 1162; murdered in 1170 after a long conflict with Henry
Saladin	Sultan of Egypt and Syria, and a great military leader who commanded the Muslim armies that Richard I fought against in the Third Crusade

From William I to Henry II

