

**I.L. Ekareva, E.A. Runova, E.A. Gavrilova**

---

# **HISTORY OF BRITAIN IN THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES EXERCISE**

**Workbook**

SCIENTIFIC WORLD

Riga  
2020

**UDC 82.111.1(09)(075.8)**  
**BCB 83.3(4Вел)я73**

**Ekareva, I.L.**

History of Britain in the Early Middle Ages exercise : workbook /  
I.L. Ekareva, E.A. Runova, E.A. Gavrilova. — Riga : SCIENTIFIC WORLD,  
2020. — 142 с.

**ISBN 978-9934-8833-8-5**

This book is a linguistic and cultural guide that introduces students to the historical facts, economic history and other aspects of life in Britain in the Early Middle Ages after the Norman Conquest. The distinctive feature of this book is that along with texts with questions, most of the learning materials on economic and social history of Britain are presented in the format of various lexical-grammatical exercises such as gap-filling, multiple choice, word-building, crosswords, quizzes, etc. The variety of the exercises contributes not only to the development of the readers' knowledge of the exciting period in British history, but to the enrichment of their vocabulary and developing their linguistic competence as well. The contents are based on the authentic text materials from public Internet sources. Its target readership is school pupils with in-depth study of the English language, participants of the various Olympiads and contests, high school L2 and History students and anybody interested in the history of Britain and learning English. The workbook contains a comprehensive, student-friendly answer key which makes it possible to use it both for classroom work under the teacher's supervision and for self-study.

**UDC 82.111.1(09)(075.8)**  
**BCB 83.3(4Вел)я73**

© Ekareva I.L., Runova E.A.,  
Gavrilova E.A., 2020  
© SIA Biom.lv, 2020

**ISBN 978-9934-8833-8-5**

# Contents

<b>Part 1. The Impact of the Norman Conquest of England.....</b>	<b>6</b>
The Norman Invasion.....	6
Who Were the Normans? .....	7
The Factors that Contributed to the Battle of Hastings .....	8
The Battle of Hastings.....	9
The Overview of the Battle of Hastings.....	9
The Impact of the Battle of Hastings on English Society .....	10
Norman and Saxon .....	14
The Domesday Book .....	15
Reasons for the Production of the Domesday Book.....	17
The Data-collection Procedures for the Domesday Book .....	18
Domesday Disappearances – The Lost Locations .....	19
How did The Domesday Book Earn Such an Ominous Name?.....	20
The Continuing Importance of the Domesday Book .....	20
The Empire of the Normans.....	22
A Conquered Nation .....	23
Towns in Anglo-Norman England .....	24
Village Life in Anglo-Norman England .....	25
The Use of Land in Anglo-Norman England .....	27
Manor Houses in Norman England.....	28
Subjugation of the Country .....	30
The Bayeux Tapestry.....	31
How Was the Bayeux Tapestry Made?.....	32
Who and What Can Be Seen in the Bayeux Tapestry? .....	34
The Strengthening of the Royal Power .....	38
Ensuring the Vassals' Loyalty .....	39
The King's Supporters .....	41
How the Norman Conquerors Lived in England.....	42
The Norman Nobles.....	43
Categories of Peasants and Their Duties .....	44
The Establishment of Feudalism.....	46
The Peasants' Struggle Against the Feudal Lords.....	49
Robin Hood .....	50
Magna Carta .....	53
What Events Led to The Creation of the Magna Carta? .....	54
The Importance of the Magna Carta for the History of England.....	56
The Reeds of Runnymede.....	56
The Kings of Norman England.....	62
King Richard the Lionheart The King who Sold Scotland to Go on Crusade.....	64

The Third Crusade .....	65
Normans Effects on the Language .....	67
<b>Part 2. Development of Crafts and Trade in England in the 12<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> Centuries .....</b>	<b>69</b>
Rise of Towns in England in the 11 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Centuries .....	69
Medieval Towns .....	71
The Town Under a Medieval Lord.....	73
The Town's Charter .....	74
<b>Part 3. Medieval Guilds.....</b>	<b>76</b>
The Origin of Guilds in Britain .....	76
Early History of Medieval Guilds .....	77
Guilds: Types and Functions .....	78
Merchant Guilds in Medieval Britain .....	78
The Craft Guilds.....	80
Craft Guilds in Medieval Britain.....	82
Structure and Social Roles within the Guild .....	83
The Life of Medieval Guilds in Britain .....	84
The Artisan's Workshop.....	86
The Progressive Role of the Guilds in the 11 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> Centuries .....	89
The Putting-out System .....	90
Advances in Technology.....	91
<b>Part 4. Medieval Industry and Crafts .....</b>	<b>92</b>
Medieval Crafts: Goldsmith.....	92
Medieval Crafts: Medieval Armorer.....	94
Medieval Crafts: Medieval Blacksmith .....	95
The Anvil.....	97
Medieval Crafts: Medieval Bowyer.....	98
Medieval Crafts: Medieval Miller .....	99
Medieval Crafts: Medieval Moneyer.....	100
Making hammered coins in medieval times .....	101
<b>Part 5. Development of Trade in England in the 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries ..</b>	<b>103</b>
Commodity Production.....	103
Markets .....	105
Fairs .....	106
Wool Trade .....	107
Main Sea Routes .....	108
<b>Part 6. Economic Development .....</b>	<b>110</b>
The Social Structure of the Population and its Impact on the Economy ...	110
Economic Development between 1086 and 1286 .....	111
Population Growth .....	113
The Impact of the Growth of Population on the Economy .....	114
Customary Law Manipulation.....	116
Rise in Prices.....	117

**Part 7. The Norman Castles in Britain.....123**  
    The Norman Castle.....123  
    Norman Castles Today .....124  
**SUPPLEMENT .....129**  
**KEYS TO EXERCISES.....136**

# Part 1. The Impact of the Norman Conquest of England

**Ex.1. Read the text about the Norman invasion and answer the questions after it.**

## **The Norman Invasion**

In 1066 William, the Duke of Normandy, began to gather an army to invade Britain. The pretext for the invasion was William's claims to the English throne. He was related to the king who died in 1066.

According to the English law it was the Witenagemot that chose the next king. If the late king left a grown-up son he was almost sure to be chosen; if not, the King's Council of wise men would offer the Crown to some other near relative of the dead king. The king who died in 1066 had no children and Duke William cherished the hope that he would succeed to the English throne. But the Witenagemot chose another relative of the deceased king, the Anglo-Saxon Earl, Harold. William of Normandy claimed that England belonged to him and he began preparations for a war to fight for the Crown.

William sent messengers far and wide to invite the fighting men of Western Europe to join his forces. He called upon all the Christian warriors of Europe to help him gain his rights to the English throne. No pay was offered, but William promised land to all who would support him. William also asked the Roman Pope for his support. He promised to strengthen the Pope's power over the English Church. And the Church with the Roman Pope at the head blessed his campaign and called it a holy war. There were many fighting men who were ready to join William's army since it was understood that English lands would be given to the victors.

William mustered a numerous army which consisted not only of the Norman barons and knights but of the knights from other parts of France. Many big sailing-boats were built to carry the army across the Channel. William landed in the south of England and the battle between the Normans and the Anglo-Saxons took place on the 14th of October 1066 at a little village in the neighborhood of the town now called Hastings.

### **Questions:**

1. What was the pretext for the Norman invasion?
2. Who was to choose the next king according to the English law?
3. Who cherished the hope that he would succeed to the English throne when the childless king died in 1066?
4. How did William of Normandy begin preparations for a war to fight for the Crown?
5. What pay was offered to those Christian warriors of Europe who agreed to join his forces?
6. Why did the Roman Pope bless William's military campaign?
7. Who did William's army consist of?
8. Where did William and his army land?
9. What battle take place on the 14th of October 1066?

**Ex.2. You are going to read the text about the Normans. Some parts have been removed from the text. Choose from A-E the one which fits each gap.**

<b>A</b>	very much like those of the Anglo-Saxons
<b>B</b>	of the English kings
<b>C</b>	wage wars against other dukes
<b>D</b>	who were related to the Danes
<b>E</b>	the Norman barons had come into possession
<b>F</b>	the conquered part of England
<b>G</b>	to speak the French language
<b>H</b>	became the new conquerors of England
<b>I</b>	actually as strong as the king himself

### Who Were the Normans?

In the 9th century while the Danes were plundering England another branch of Northmen (1) \_\_\_\_\_ were doing the same along the Northern coasts of France. They came to be called the Normans, a variation of the word “Northmen”. The Danes, as you remember, settled down in (2) \_\_\_\_\_ known as the Danelaw. Likewise, the Normans settled down on land conquered from the French king — a territory which is still called Normandy after these Normans.

Many changes came about in the life of the Normans and the Danes after the 9th century. By the 11th century the Danes had finally settled down as subjects (3) \_\_\_\_\_.



As time went on they gradually mixed with the Anglo-Saxons among whom they lived. Thus they retained their Germanic language and many of their customs that were (4) \_\_\_\_\_. But the Normans who had settled down in France were now quite different from their Germanic forefathers. They lived among the French people, who were a different people, with different manners, customs and language. They had learned (5) \_\_\_\_\_,

many ways, they had become like the French themselves. They adopted their manners and customs, and their way of life. The establishment of the feudal system in France had been completed by the 11th century and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of large tracts of land and a great number of serfs.

The Normans lived under the rule of their own duke. By the 11th century the dukes of Normandy had become very powerful. Though they acknowledged the king of France as their overlord, they were (7) \_\_\_\_\_, whose domain was smaller than the Duchy of Normandy. Like other French dukes and counts they made themselves practically independent. They coined their

own money, made their own laws, held their own courts, built their own castles. They could (8) \_\_\_\_\_ and even against the king himself. As a well-armed and well-trained cavalry, the Norman knights were the best in Europe. They were formidable fighters and would wage wars in order to seize new lands and serfs.

These descendants of the Northmen who had settled in northern France in the 9th century (9) \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ex.3. Read the passage about the factors that contributed to the Battle of Hastings and supply the missing prepositions.**

**The Factors that Contributed to the Battle of Hastings**

In 1051, William Duke of Normandy is said to have visited England, and during his visit he met (1) \_\_\_\_\_ his cousin Edward the Confessor. Edward had ruled England, but had failed to produce a son that would be heir (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the throne. This meant that King Edward would need to name a successor.

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ his deathbed, King Edward granted the kingdom to Harold Godwine. Prior (4) \_\_\_\_\_ his appointment as king, Henry was the head (5) \_\_\_\_\_ a leading noble family in England. King Edward died (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the 4<sup>th</sup> January 1066 and Harold Godwine was crowned as King Harold II just two days later.

William Duke of Normandy immediately disputed his claim, and put (7) \_\_\_\_\_ his own claim, stating that Edward had promised him the throne during his visit in 1051. Whether Edward had indeed made such a promise is impossible to prove, however, William felt he was entitled (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the English throne, and he was not going to give (9) \_\_\_\_\_ his chance to rule (10) \_\_\_\_\_ a fight. Harold, however, thought (11) \_\_\_\_\_ himself as a serious contender (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the title of king, and he had no intention of letting William take the title (13) \_\_\_\_\_ him.

Furious, William sought support, and he found it in the Pope. The Pope encouraged William to go to England and take the crown that he felt was so rightly his. William also found support (14) \_\_\_\_\_ his fellow noblemen in Normandy, and he also found allies in the noblemen of Brittany and Flanders. Within six months William had gathered enough men and resources to launch an attack on English soil. By July, William was preparing his forces, ready (15) \_\_\_\_\_ an attack.

**Ex.4. Read the passage about The Battle of Hastings and supply the missing words connected with war and battles. Choose from the following list in the box.**

armor	archers	victor	axes	fighting	fire-arms	cavalry
armed	bodyguard	forces	command	fought	ranks	shields
tactics						

## The Battle of Hastings

The Normans outnumbered the Anglo-Saxon (1) \_\_\_\_\_ and were great in quality. They were all men for whom (2) \_\_\_\_\_ was the main occupation in life. They were well (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and the chance of being killed was not so great, since they all wore (4) \_\_\_\_\_ and there were no (5) \_\_\_\_\_ at that time. The superior military (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of the well-trained Normans were unknown in England. They used a skillful combination of heavy-armored (7) \_\_\_\_\_ and (8) \_\_\_\_\_. First the archers would break up the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of their enemy and then followed a charging cavalry which decided the victory.

The Anglo-Saxons had a small cavalry, it was mainly Harold's (10) \_\_\_\_\_. The hastily gathered levies of free peasants who (11) \_\_\_\_\_ on foot made up the main body of the Anglo-Saxon army. Not all the footmen were properly armed, many were armed with pitchforks, (12) \_\_\_\_\_, or only thick oak-poles. The Anglo-Saxon footmen usually fought in a mass standing close together, so as to form a wall of (13) \_\_\_\_\_ to protect themselves.

It must also be remembered that while William had firm power over the vassals who came with him from Normandy and France, King Harold's power over the Anglo-Saxon earls was very weak. Harold could not rely on the earls of North-Eastern and Middle England in time of need. The earls moved slowly towards Hastings, so as to arrive after the battle and then join with the (14) \_\_\_\_\_, either Harold or William. As a result, when Harold met William at Hastings, he had under his (15) \_\_\_\_\_ only the men of Wessex.

**Ex.5. Read the overview of the Battle of Hastings and complete it with appropriate words, derived from the words in brackets.**

### The Overview of the Battle of Hastings

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October 1066 King Harold II of England was defeated by William, Duke of Normandy (also known as William the Conqueror) at what is now known as the Battle of Hastings. The battle was fought on Senlac Hill, a location that's (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (approximate) seven miles from Hastings, England.

By the end of the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (blood) day King Harold had been killed. Legend says that Harold was killed by an arrow in the eye, although this may be more folklore than fact. Henry and his forces were destroyed by William and his Norman army, and Harold was the last Anglo-Saxon king of England.

- Edward the Confessor, the English king that preceded Henry, was raised in Normandy and as such had a number of Norman friends.
- Duke William of Normandy claimed that during a visit to see King Edward he told William that he would succeed him as king. Duke William also claimed that Harold Godwinson agreed that William should be the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (succeed) of Edward the Confessor.

- However, Harold Godwinson accepted the crown and became King of England after Edward's death, and Duke William receives support from the Pope to mount a campaign against England to claim the crown.
- King Harold hears of the impending attack and positioned his army on the south coast in (4) \_\_\_\_\_(prepare) for the arrival of the Norman (5) \_\_\_\_\_(invade), when the Vikings (6) \_\_\_\_\_(sudden) launch an invasion in north of England.
- King Harold and his army are forced to answer the Viking invasion, and Henry marched his army to York to defend against the Viking attack. Harold and his men defeat the Vikings, but they have to (7) \_\_\_\_\_(immediate) march back to the south coast to answer the Norman invasion that landed while Harold was in York.
- Despite the (8) \_\_\_\_\_(expect) attack on the Vikings, the English troops managed to hold off the (9) \_\_\_\_\_(initiate) Norman attack. Knowing that they may be losing the battle, the Norman forces changed their strategy and fired their arrows up into the air.
- Believing that the Normans are retreating, the English give chase, giving up their position on higher ground which was giving the English troops a great advantage, which (10) \_\_\_\_\_(ultimate) cost the English the Battle of Hastings.

**Ex.6. Read the text about the Impact of the Battle of Hastings on English society and decide which answer (A, B or C) best fits each gap.**

**The Impact of the Battle of Hastings on English Society**

The Battle of Hastings is often (1) \_\_\_\_\_ with the title of “the battle that changed history”. It is often given this title because of the huge (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the demise of the Saxon empire and the rise of a Norman king had on the country and the culture of England. The battle didn't just change things inside England, it also changed the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ that England was perceived by other countries.

The citizens of England were Saxons (4) \_\_\_\_\_, and they did not appreciate or (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of William and his men stripping them of their rights and privileges. Many rebellions were attempted and failed, and William was not shy of ensuring that his law was (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Despite his unpopularity with the people, William the Conqueror was (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to rule uninterrupted for more than 20 years.

**Changes to the legal system**

During the Saxon rule citizens were able to enjoy certain freedoms and “Earls” could share (8) \_\_\_\_\_ power and influence as that enjoyed by the king. However, William was quick to make changes to this system.

Under William's law, the king was the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ authority figure, making it almost impossible for anyone, no (10) \_\_\_\_\_ what their nobility, to argue against the king.

## Changes to English Culture

A culture and set of customs that had lasted more than 3000 years was wiped out and changed (11) \_\_\_\_\_ with the arrival of the new king. William's rule saw the elimination of the Saxon way of life, and society was pushed toward Norman thinking.

## Introduction of the Feudal System

Saxon ownership was (12) \_\_\_\_\_ undermined with the arrival of the new king and his noblemen with the development of the feudal system. William had previously developed and implemented a similar (13) \_\_\_\_\_ in Normandy with great success. The system was founded upon the idea that the best soldiers would be rewarded with a piece of land, creating a (14) \_\_\_\_\_ of loyalty between the troops and their leader. In William's case, he took the land owned by Anglo-Saxon land and redistributed it to his Norman nobleman. Anglo-Saxons were forced to work their own land for new landlords at poor (15) \_\_\_\_\_ of pay.

- |     |               |               |                 |
|-----|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | A. calling    | B. attributed | C. associated   |
| 2.  | A. important  | B. influenced | C. impact       |
| 3.  | A. way        | B. customs    | C. those        |
| 4.  | A. by hand    | B. in the eye | C. at heart     |
| 5.  | A. approve    | B. agree      | C. accept       |
| 6.  | A. strongly   | B. enforced   | C. cruelty      |
| 7.  | A. capable    | B. able       | C. inability    |
| 8.  | A. same       | B. alike      | C. similar      |
| 9.  | A. mainly     | B. unique     | C. sole         |
| 10. | A. matter     | B. importance | C. significance |
| 11. | A. immediate  | B. forever    | C. very quick   |
| 12. | A. completely | B. only       | C. besides      |
| 13. | A. laws       | B. ruling     | C. system       |
| 14. | A. bond       | B. majority   | C. few          |
| 15. | A. money      | B. rates      | C. remuneration |

**Ex.7. The year 1066 is often considered the most famous in English history. In 1066 England suffered the Norman Conquest and a new era began. Answer the quiz questions to see how well you know the events that took place in England in 1066. You can also consult the *SUPPLEMENT* and choose the correct answer from the pieces of information given there.**

**1. This king, known as the Confessor, died without leaving behind any progeny on January 5, 1066. Who was he?**

- A. Tostig Godwinson
- B. Henry V
- C. William II
- D. Edward

**2. Whom did Edward the Confessor designate as his successor?**

- A. Edgar Atheling

- B. Harold Godwinson
- C. Tostig Godwinson
- D. William the Conqueror

**3. Although Edward had voiced his opinion regarding his choice of heir, who had the right to elect England's king?**

- A. All English freemen
- B. The clergy
- C. The Pope
- D. The witan

**4. Following the death of the English King in January 1066, Harold Godwinson the Earl of Wessex, was crowned King. What relation was Harold to the previous king?**

- A. brother-in-law
- B. nephew
- C. brother
- D. son

**5. Who was the first person to invade England in 1066?**

- A. Odo of Normandy
- B. William of Normandy
- C. Harald Hardrada of Norway
- D. Svein Estrithson of Denmark

**6. What happened to the Westminster Abbey in 1066?**

- A. It was built
- B. It was attacked by a mob
- C. It burned down
- D. It opened

**7. The King of Norway, Harald III Hardrada, defeated the English in what battle?**

- A. Battle of Hastings
- B. Battle of Fulford
- C. Battle of Stamford Bridge
- D. Battle of Yorkshire

**8. Who invaded England on September 28, 1066?**

- A. Harold III
- B. William the Conqueror
- C. Edward the Brave
- D. Tostig Godwinson

**9. William's army was due to sail on August 12, 1066, but it was delayed for a few days. Why?**

- A. William faced a brief mutiny from his soldiers
- B. Bad weather
- C. William fell extremely ill
- D. One of the ships started leaking

**10. In what battle did William the Conqueror win England?**

- A. Battle of Fulford

- B. Battle of York
- C. Battle of Trent
- D. Battle of Hastings

**11. Who was the King of Norway that died in battle at age 51 on September 25, 1066?**

- A. William II
- B. William the Conqueror
- C. Harald III Hardrada
- D. Edward the Confessor

**12. Who was killed at the battle of Stamford Bridge on September 25, 1066?**

- A. Edward
- B. Harold III
- C. William II
- D. Tostig Godwinson

**13. What happened at the Battle of Stamford Bridge on September 25th 1066?**

- A. Harald Hardrada defeated Harold
- B. William of Normandy defeated Harold
- C. Harold defeated William of Normandy
- D. Harold defeated Harald Hardrada

**14. What king of England died on October 14, 1066?**

- A. William III
- B. William II
- C. Harold III
- D. Harold II

**15. According to a legend, how was King Harold II of England killed?**

- A. By a lone Norman swordsman
- B. An arrow in the eye
- C. By William himself
- D. He fled the field and was found dead soon after

**16. Harold died in the Battle of Hastings. According to legend, how was his body found among the carnage?**

- A. His mother located his body
- B. His mistress, Edith Swanneck, identified him
- C. His body looked 'alive' among the dead soldiers
- D. His body was never found

**17. A tenuous thread linked William I to Edward the Confessor, and William used this as his basis to England's throne. How were the two men related?**

- A. They were half-brothers.
- B. Edward's mother Emma was William's great-aunt.
- C. Edward was William's stepfather.
- D. They were not related by blood.

**18. Before the Norman Conquest, what was the distinctly unflattering nickname bestowed upon William I?**

- A. William Longshanks
- B. William Rufus
- C. William the Devil
- D. William the Bastard

**19. William's invasion of England was supported by Pope Alexander II. What sign of Papal sanction did William's army carry?**

- A. The Holy Grail
- B. A Piece of the True Cross
- C. A Consecrated Banner
- D. The Shroud from Turin

**Ex.8. Read Rudyard Kipling's poem "Norman and Saxon " and answer the question below it. See the SUPPLEMENT for translation.**

### **Norman and Saxon**

**A.D. 1100**

"MY son," said the Norman Baron, "I am dying, and you will be heir  
To all the broad acres in England that William gave me for my share  
When we conquered the Saxon at Hastings, and a nice little handful it is.  
But before you go over to rule it I want you to understand this:

"The Saxon is not like us Normans. His manners are not so polite.  
But he never means anything serious till he talks about justice and right.  
When he stands like an ox in the furrow with his sullen set eyes on your own,  
And grumbles, 'This isn't fair dealing,' my son, leave the Saxon alone.

"You can horsewhip your Gascony archers, or torture your Picardy spears;  
But don't try that game on the Saxon; you'll have the whole brood round your ears.

From the richest old Thane in the country to the poorest chained serf in the field,  
They'll be at you and on you like hornets, and, if you are wise, you will yield.

"But first you must master their language, their dialect, proverbs and songs.  
Don't trust any clerk to interpret when they come with the tale of their wrongs.  
Let them know that you know what they're saying; let them feel that you know what to say.

Yes, even when you want to go hunting, hear 'em out if it takes you all day.

"They'll drink every hour of the daylight and poach every hour of the dark.  
It's the sport not the rabbits they're after (we've plenty of game in the park).  
Don't hang them or cut off their fingers. That's wasteful as well as unkind,

For a hard-bitten, South-country poacher makes the best man-at-arms you can find.

“Appear with your wife and the children at their weddings and funerals and feasts.

Be polite but not friendly to Bishops; be good to all poor parish priests. Say ‘we’, ‘us’ and ‘ours’ when you’re talking, instead of ‘you fellows’ and ‘I.’ Don’t ride over seeds; keep your temper; and *never you tell ‘em a lie!*”

**Questions:**

1. When and where did the events in the poem take place?
2. How did the dying man get his land?
3. What did the Norman say about the Saxon feeling of justice?
4. Why wasn’t it a good idea to punish the Saxons?
5. Who do you think was the Thane?
6. Why was it important for the Normans to master the Saxon language?
7. Why do you think the old man taught his son to use ‘we,’ ‘us,’ and ‘ours’...instead of ‘you fellows’ and ‘I’?

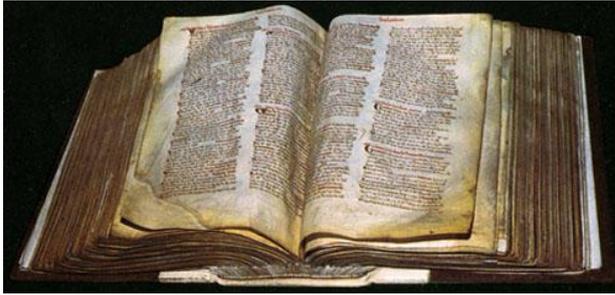
**Ex.9. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle says: “In 1086 William the Conqueror sent his men all over England, into every shire to find out what property every inhabitant of all England possessed in land, or in cattle and how much money this was worth and then all these writings were brought to him.” That was the first registration in England. Read the passage about The Domesday Book and supply the missing words. Choose from the following list in the box.**

harvesting	undertaking	irony	ownership	scribes	infor-
mation	census	living	accomplishment	first	commitment
insights	irrefutable	records	draft		

**The Domesday Book**

**Domesday Book – Origins and Purpose. Numerical Facts and Figures.**

The Domesday Book is one of the most renowned, respected and revered public (1) \_\_\_\_\_ ever to have been published. It is also the oldest public record to have survived through the ages. Unlike the modern (2) \_\_\_\_\_ records, the Domesday Book was designed not to count the numbers of the population; it was instead designed to record the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of land and resources (such as livestock).



The Domesday Book was commissioned in December 1085 and a first (4) \_\_\_\_\_, written in Latin, was delivered in August 1086. This absolutely epic (5) \_\_\_\_\_ was carried out at the request of King William I, otherwise known as William the Conqueror.

The main purpose of the Domesday Book was to create an accurate and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ document that detailed the ownership of animals and land throughout the country. The Domesday Book portrays a fascinating account of the landholdings and resources of the people (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in late 11th-century England. The Domesday Book was also a clear message that signaled the power and strength of the government and its (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to the hunt for useable data.

The Domesday Book comes with a sad (9) \_\_\_\_\_, in that William I died before the Domesday Book was fully completed. However, this did not prevent the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ or the government from completing the task.

The Domesday Book was a staggering (11) \_\_\_\_\_ given by the era, and the scale of this information (12) \_\_\_\_\_ has not been seen again until the development of the population censuses, which were launched in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The facts and figures behind the records are astonishing.

- The Domesday Book totals 913 pages, in which more than two million words are written in Latin.
- A total of 13,418 settlements were reviewed and written about in the Domesday Book.
- The first draft was delivered in less than 9 months after the book was (13) \_\_\_\_\_ commissioned.

As you can imagine, the Domesday Book would have been a massive undertaking for the administrators. A huge amount of energy and resources would have gone into the (14) \_\_\_\_\_ gathering and recording.

The Domesday Book was incredibly informative for the time, but it has also provided a huge amount of (15) \_\_\_\_\_ into Britain in the Middle Ages for modern historians. The original Domesday Book, which is more than 900 years old, can still be seen today in The National Archives in Kew.

**Ex.10. Read the overview of the reasons for the production of the Domesday Book and supply the missing prepositions.**

**Reasons for the Production of the Domesday Book**

Excerpts (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle suggest that King William I made the decision to commission the Domesday Book at the Christmas court in Gloucester.

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle says that William's men were sent:

*'all over England into every shire [to] find (2) \_\_\_\_\_ how many hides there were in the shire, what land and cattle the king had himself in the shire, what dues he ought to have in twelve months from the shire.'*

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle suggests that the Church was also not to be exempt from the process. William also:

*'...had a record made (3) \_\_\_\_\_ how much land his archbishops had, his bishops and his abbots and his earls...'*

William I had one main goal in the collection (and most importantly the recording) of all this data and that was to find out: *'...what or how much everyone who was in England had...'*

What's incredibly interesting is despite this clear goal and statement a number of cities were completely missed (4) \_\_\_\_\_ altogether.

However, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ knowing exactly who owned what in a large portion of Britain, William could create a powerful, irrefutable document that would tell him:

a) who owed him how much money based (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the land and resources that they owned, and

b) what resources he could call (7) \_\_\_\_\_ should England ever be (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the threat of war or invasion.

Many historians suggest that it was the threat of war from Denmark and Norway that forced William to issue orders (9) \_\_\_\_\_ such a monumental undertaking, although this may not have been the case. It may be that William wanted the Domesday Book to be created strictly (10) \_\_\_\_\_ financial purposes. It may also have been a demonstration (11) \_\_\_\_\_ his ability to organize and rule an entire country.

Most historians however believe that William needed a document to define how his land had been redistributed following his invasion two decades prior (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the commissioning of the Domesday Book. Following his invasion, William had redistributed a lot of the land (13) \_\_\_\_\_ individuals that had favored or helped his campaigns. The Domesday Book survey would clarify and confirm the ownership (14) \_\_\_\_\_ land and resources, and this information would be extremely beneficial (15) \_\_\_\_\_ both financial and militant purposes.

**Ex.11. You are going to read the text about the data-collection procedures for the Domesday Book. Some parts have been removed from the text. Choose from A-E the one which fits each gap.**

<b>A</b>	“the whole truth and nothing but the truth”
<b>B</b>	how much plough-land there was
<b>C</b>	the official wrote it down
<b>D</b>	in case they did not tell the whole truth
<b>E</b>	the necessary information in each shire
<b>F</b>	what it was all worth
<b>G</b>	both the English and the Latin language

**The Data-collection Procedures for the Domesday Book**

Before the arrival of the royal officials a special commission prepared (1) \_\_\_\_\_. The commission consisted of the sheriff, the lord of the estate, the priest, the hundred-elder and six peasants. They would measure the land, write down (2) \_\_\_\_\_ and how much meadow, pasture, and woodland. They would visit everyone’s house and find out how many oxen were kept. They would have

to know the number of mills and ploughs in the village and how many fishponds there were. Then the royal officials would arrive with a number of warriors. One of the officials knew (3) \_\_\_\_\_, so that he could act as interpreter.



The villagers would give their answers in English but the official would have to write them down in Latin. After the members of the commission had taken a solemn oath to tell (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the royal official began to ask questions. The interpreter repeated his questions in English. Another official with a pen in his hand and an ink-horn hanging from his waist-belt stood by to write down the answer. As each question was answered and interpreted into Latin (5) \_\_\_\_\_ on a sheet of parchment.

This went on perhaps all day. There were the same questions in each village. The name of the owner of the village was written down, and what the villagers possessed, and (6) \_\_\_\_\_, and what they should pay to the king. The Anglo-Saxons were afraid of the registration and hated it. The villagers used to say that nothing could be concealed from the king’s officials just as you would not conceal anything from God on doomsday. The villagers were threatened to be punished on doomsday (7) \_\_\_\_\_. That is why probably the book in which all these accounts were written was called by the people of England the Domesday Book.

**Ex.12. Read the text about Domesday Disappearances and decide whether the statements below it are TRUE, FALSE or NOT STATED.**

**Domesday Disappearances – The Lost Locations**

As mentioned earlier, the Domesday Book was not, by any means, a complete survey of Britain. In fact, there were a number of key cities and towns that were not mentioned in the records. These include: London, Winchester, Bristol, Tamworth, Northumberland, Westmorland, Cumberland and Durham. Much of the areas in the north-west England were not mentioned, and only segments of certain border areas along Wales were included in the survey.

It is believed that London and Winchester were not included because of their size. The complexity of trying to record the details of ownership within these cities was simply too much. Northumberland, Westmorland and Cumberland were not included because they had not been fully conquered at the time that the survey was conducted. County Durham was excluded because the Bishop of Durham, William de St-Calais, had the exclusive rights to the tax for this particular region.

The omission of other areas such as Tamworth and Bristol has never been fully explained or understood.

Smaller locations were also lost in the compilation of the Domesday Book. Rather than being mentioned as individual towns and hamlets they were often included as part of a larger estate.

In this sense, the Domesday Book was riddled with holes and discrepancies. However, again, it was by far the most detailed public record that had ever been created in Britain, and it is, to this day a useful and relevant historical document.

**Decide whether the statements are TRUE, FALSE or NOT STATED.**

1. The Domesday Book was a complete survey of life in Britain.
2. Many big cities and towns were not included in the records.
3. The areas in the north-west England were not mentioned in the Domesday Book because they were too far.
4. The size and complexity of trying to record the details of ownership in London and Winchester made it impossible to record information about them.
5. All areas that had not been fully conquered at the time that the survey was conducted were excluded.
6. County Durham was not included because the exclusive rights to the tax for this particular region didn't belong to the king.
7. The omission of Tamworth and Bristol is explained by their small size in those days.
8. Smaller locations were lost in the compilation of the Domesday Book because they were often included as part of a larger estate.
9. Despite many riddles, holes and discrepancies the Domesday Book was the most detailed public record that had ever been created in Britain.

**Ex.13. Read the overview of the origin of the Domesday Book's name and complete it with appropriate words, derived from the words in brackets.**

**How did The Domesday Book Earn Such an Ominous Name?**

The Domesday Book certainly sounds like an ominous title for an official survey and record; however, it wasn't initially given that name by King William I or his team of scribes.

An (1) \_\_\_\_\_(observe) wrote a line about the survey that has remained (2) \_\_\_\_\_(synonym) with the survey and the records. The observer is quoted to have said:

*"...there was no single hide nor a yard of land, nor indeed one ox nor one cow nor one pig which was left out".*

As we know, the Domesday Book excluded a number of key cities and areas, so it can be safe to assume that this (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (state) was a slight over (4) \_\_\_\_\_(exaggerate) of the survey (although it does clearly convey the feelings the (5) \_\_\_\_\_(comprehend) survey generated from the local populous). This (6) \_\_\_\_\_(negation) perspective of the survey may have contributed to the (7) \_\_\_\_\_(compare) between the book and the Bible.

People compared the Domesday Book to the Last Judgement, or 'Doomsday', described in the (8) \_\_\_\_\_(pass) of the Bible. In this section of the Bible the deeds of Christian souls are said to be written in the Book of Life, and this book would then be used by The Almighty to judge each individual.

It was the incredible and comprehensive scale of the Domesday survey and the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (reverse) and (10) \_\_\_\_\_(refute) nature of the details and data that was collected and recorded, combined with the quote given above that led the local citizens to attach the ominous and now permanent nickname to the survey and the book.

**Ex.14. Read the text about the importance of the Domesday Book and answer the questions after it.**

**The Continuing Importance of the Domesday Book**

It goes without saying that the Domesday Book provides modern historians with invaluable insights into the economical and sociological structure of the country at the time of William's reign.

The Domesday Book has been used to discover the wealth hidden within England at the time, information about the feudal system, which is the social hierarchy from the top of the society (i.e. the king) down to bottom of the society, (i.e. the villagers and slaves).

The Domesday Book has also provided valuable information on both the geography and the demographics of Britain at the time. Local historians have been able to use the Domesday Book to reveal the history of local settlements, whilst genealogists have been able to use the Domesday Book for tracing back the family tree for many individuals.

Of course, given the kind of data that was recorded and stored in the Domesday it has also been used in it's fair share of disputes over both land and property rights. The last case of the Domesday Book being used in this way was more than 50 years ago in the 1960s.

The Domesday Book provides not just an insight in to what once was, but it has and can be used to glimpse into what would be later on into what was then the future. It has helped a huge number of people from all kinds of backgrounds to ascertain crucial information.

Put simply, the importance of the Domesday Book is difficult to overstate. Anyone who uses the Domesday Book simply can't help but acknowledge and appreciate the scale, size and scope of the survey and the beauty of the text that was derived as a direct result of the survey.

There is no document in Europe that can compare to the complexity and the huge amount of territory that is covered by the Domesday Book volumes.

**Questions:**

1. What does the Domesday Book provide modern historians with?
2. What has the Domesday Book been used for?
3. Did the Domesday Book provide valuable information on the geography and the demographics of Britain at the time?
4. How do local historians use the Domesday Book?
5. Why is the Domesday Book a valuable resource for genealogists?
6. Why is the information from the Domesday Book still used in disputes over both land and property rights? When did the last case take place?
7. Why has the Domesday Book helped many people from all kinds of backgrounds to ascertain crucial information?
8. Why is it difficult to overstate the importance of the Domesday Book?
9. Is there any other document in Europe that can compare to the Domesday Book by the size and complexity?

**Ex.15. You are going to read the text about the empire of the Normans. Some sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from A-H the one which fits each gap.**

<b>A</b>	William had about 200 tenants-in-chief , or barons as they were later called, to whom he gave large estates.
<b>B</b>	The idea of land rented for military service was not new to England.
<b>C</b>	The system already existed, and a very thorough system it was, right down to the courts of justice in every shire and hundred (a hundred was a division of a shire).
<b>D</b>	Most important of all, they had to provide military service, not only by bearing arms themselves, but also by bringing with them a certain number of knights (the number depended on the size of their estates), properly armed and mounted.
<b>E</b>	His army had gained the kingdom for him, and his army had to keep it.
<b>F</b>	Of course, he might have been no better off if the Norman Conquest had never happened.

<b>G</b>	An age when war was treated almost as a sport, as something all upper-class men were expected to practise, was not always peaceful.
<b>H</b>	Many of them found it very tiresome to spend an agreed forty days a year on military service, as they were more interested in their farms.

### **The Empire of the Normans**

The late 11th and 12th centuries in Europe were a time of good order, prosperity and progress. (1) \_\_\_\_\_ But increasing trade, growing towns and safer travel were signs of better times. The Norman rulers of England were not responsible for these improvements, but they did something to make them possible.

Kings of England enjoyed one great advantage over other rulers. England was a united kingdom, accustomed to royal government. This was the achievement of Alfred and his successors. In more recent times, with the rise of the great earls, the kingdom had shown signs of breaking up into smaller pieces, but that development was prevented by the Norman Conquest.

William the Conqueror did not have to invent centralized government. (2) \_\_\_\_\_ The English people were used to regular taxation - one good result of *Danegeld* («Датские деньги», поземельный налог для уплаты датским викингам) - and together with the huge estates that William kept as royal property, the Norman monarchy could count itself rich.

All what was needed was a strong man at the top. William was such a man, and so were his sons, the rough, red-faced William Rufus (shot in a hunting accident at the age of forty) and the cool, clever Henry I.

William the Conqueror was, above all, a military leader. (3) \_\_\_\_\_ The first essential was to make sure of the loyalty of his chief followers, which he did by rewarding them for their service with land. (4) \_\_\_\_\_ He made sure that their estates were scattered in different parts of the country, as he did not want to run the risk of creating dangerous centres of power for some future rebel.

The tenants-in-chief carried out certain duties in return for their lands. They were the king's representatives in the provinces, and they had to attend his court and give advice if needed (the king did not have to follow their advice). (5) \_\_\_\_\_

As a rule these knights were sub-tenants - men who held land from the barons just as the barons held it from the king. (6) \_\_\_\_\_ The custom grew up of paying *Scutage*, 'shield money', instead - the medieval way of buying yourself out of the army.

(7) \_\_\_\_\_ But the businesslike Normans made it the foundation of society, a matter of strict contracts and official agreements.

The organization of the country in this military way certainly did not suit everyone. The poor peasant farmer was struggling to keep his independence in Anglo-Saxon times; under the Normans he often became a serf, or villein - not a slave (slavery was disappearing), but definitely 'unfree'. He had to work for the local lord; he could not leave the village or get married without the

lord's permission. (8) \_\_\_\_\_ He might even have been worse off, for not all peasants went down in the world after 1066, and although he had so many duties to his lord, the lord also had some duties towards him.

**Ex.16. Read the passage about life in Britain after the Norman conquest and supply the missing words. Choose from the following list in the box.**

descendant	fine	bitterly	rebels	enforcement
to restore	cathedrals	plain	few	much
vision	ordinary	hiding	subjects	hard

### A Conquered Nation

All the same, the English were a conquered nation after 1066. William I might insist that no 'conquest' had taken place, but many an Englishman, (1) \_\_\_\_\_ from Norman soldiers in his ruined house, must have laughed (2) \_\_\_\_\_ at such a notion. Hardly any Englishmen were left in positions of power, and although William Rufus might speak affectionately of 'my Englishmen, strong and true', the law made it (3) \_\_\_\_\_ that Englishmen were different from Normans. If a man was found murdered in any place and his murderer not discovered, the local inhabitants had to pay a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ - unless they could prove that the dead man was an Englishman, and not a Norman.

When we look at the magnificent buildings of the Normans - majestic (5) \_\_\_\_\_ like Durham, superb castles like the Tower of London - we think of the skills of the stone-mason and the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of the master builder. We forget the pain and exhaustion of the laborers who were forced to haul the great stone blocks into place. When we read about the efficiency of the Normans, we think of orderly government and (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of law. It is easy to imagine that the Normans brought 'civilization' to Anglo-Saxon England, as the Romans brought it to Celtic Britain. But when we ask exactly what this 'civilization' meant for (8) \_\_\_\_\_ people, we often find it meant terror, distraction and death.

Eventually, the Normans and English merged into a single nation, but there were (9) \_\_\_\_\_ signs of reconciliation until the reign of Henry I (1100-35). At the beginning of his reign Henry issued a charter of English liberties, which promised (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the 'good laws' of Edward the Confessor. He married an English princess, a (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of King Alfred, but gave her a French name (Matilda) to make her sound more respectable to his Norman (12) \_\_\_\_\_. They were scornful of Henry's pro-English policies and in private called 'the king and queen simple old Anglo-Saxon names, *Godric* and *Godgifu*.

When a business company takes over another firm, its directors want to know as (13) \_\_\_\_\_ about the new firm as possible. When the Normans 'took over' England, one of their problems was that they did not know a great deal about the country. If William gave an estate in - for example - Gloucestershire to some French knight (not all his men came from Normandy), the man must have had a (14) \_\_\_\_\_ time finding out where the place was.

Of course, many English were willing to help: within a year or two of the Conquest, William was using English soldiers against English (15) \_\_\_\_\_. But there were no records to compare with the records kept by a modern business company, let alone our modern civil service, and William, as a good manager, wanted to know more.

**Ex.17. Read the text about towns in Anglo-Norman England and supply the missing prepositions.**

**Towns in Anglo-Norman England**

In 1100 the population of England was less than 1.5 million - about the size (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the present population of Birmingham and Coventry. Only (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 100,000 of them lived (3) \_\_\_\_\_ towns, and few places were large enough to match our idea of what a town should be. (The word 'town' originally meant a homestead - just one house.) London was, as always, an exception. When William I began to build his White Tower overlooking the Thames, about 20,000 people lived there, all (4) \_\_\_\_\_ them inside the walls of the old Roman city. York, Norwich and Lincoln were the next largest, though probably none had more than 5,000 people.

Towns were nevertheless growing fast (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the Normans, and they went (6) \_\_\_\_\_ growing (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the early 14th century. Landowners soon noticed that towns were profitable places, and they were eager to start one, or, more often, to increase the size (8) \_\_\_\_\_ a town that already existed. This was something that only rich landlords could do, as it did require some expense to get a town going, though nothing like the expense of building new towns today.

Landlords were not concerned (9) \_\_\_\_\_ 'town planning'. New parishes were added on higgledy-piggledy: you have only to look (10) \_\_\_\_\_ a city like Norwich, where there are twenty medieval parish churches within five minutes' walk of one spot (not counting the cathedral, which alone might held the whole population) to see the chaos - but attractive chaos - of the growth of a medieval town.

**Ex.18. Read the text about the village life in Anglo-Norman England and decide which answer (A, B or C) best fits each gap.**

**Village Life in Anglo-Norman England**

Nine out of ten people in England lived in the country, the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in small villages. There were isolated farms in (2) \_\_\_\_\_ parts, where people lived a pioneer life far from the nearest neighbours, (3) \_\_\_\_\_ farms on the frontier of the American West in the 19th century. But Norman England was (4) \_\_\_\_\_ a country of small villages.

Driving through the English countryside today, the villages seem very close together, but 800 years ago they seemed (5) \_\_\_\_\_ farther apart. There were no roads then, only muddy tracks, and a journey of (6) \_\_\_\_\_ a kilometre or two could be difficult in winter. In any case, people did not travel. Most of them probably did not want to, they (7) \_\_\_\_\_ very seldom have had the opportunity. The English peasant was born, lived and died in the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ place.



In the English village, the houses and other buildings were all in a group, with the fields stretching away (9) \_\_\_\_\_. If possible, they were built on a hill, but sometimes they had to be in a valley to be (10) \_\_\_\_\_ a supply of water. The fields were the big open fields of Saxon times, farmed in strips. But in some places small hedged fields were already in (11) \_\_\_\_\_. They became more (12) \_\_\_\_\_ as time passed.

As everyone lived together in the village, it was a long way to walk to the (13) \_\_\_\_\_ field; but that was a small drawback compared with the advantages. People had to share tools and services: there was only one mill, one brewery, perhaps only one oven for baking, and not many villages were lucky (14) \_\_\_\_\_ to have a plough for each household. In Norfolk, one of the most heavily populated counties, one plough had to be (15) \_\_\_\_\_ among five households. It was also easier for the lord of the manor to keep an eye on his tenants in a village, and harder for robbers to attack.

- |                |               |             |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. A. minority | B. population | C. majority |
| 2. A. some     | B. others     | C. further  |
| 3. A. as       | B. like       | C. similar  |
| 4. A. mostly   | B. in totally | C. however  |
| 5. A. a lot of | B. more       | C. much     |
| 6. A. a few    | B. only       | C. less     |
| 7. A. had      | B. would      | C. hardly   |
| 8. A. only     | B. unique     | C. same     |
| 9. A. far      | B. within     | C. beyond   |

- |     |             |               |               |
|-----|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| 10. | A. near     | B. next       | C. besides    |
| 11. | A. ploughed | B. use        | C. cultivated |
| 12. | A. common   | B. developing | C. ordinary   |
| 13. | A. longer   | B. distance   | C. farthest   |
| 14. | A. too      | B. enough     | C. though     |
| 15. | A. shared   | B. using      | C. applying   |

**Ex.19. You are going to read how English peasants lived under the Normans in the 11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> centuries . Some sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from A-H the one which fits each gap.**

<b>A</b>	His manager, or steward, looked after the estate and acted as judge in his absence and often lived in the manor-house himself when his lord was away.
<b>B</b>	The village arable land was divided into two or three great fields; one of the fields was still fallow every year; each field was still divided into strips and the village was still as far as possible self-sufficient.
<b>C</b>	The largest dwelling in the village belonged to the lord of the manor and was called the manor-house.
<b>D</b>	The religious services were held not only on Sundays, but also on all feast days or holy days.
<b>E</b>	By this time the village had become a part of the feudal manor.
<b>F</b>	The smoke of the fire could get out through the doors or windows, or through holes in the thatched roofs.
<b>G</b>	The Anglo-Saxon church would be made of stone, with very thick walls and a tower.
<b>H</b>	They were dark, cold and uncomfortable.

At the end of the 11th and at the beginning of the 12th century England had a population of about 1,500,000 people. More than nine-tenths lived in villages and were engaged in agriculture.



Norman village reconstruction in Essex

The church was the centre of the village. (1) \_\_\_\_\_ In the life of the villagers the church was of great importance. The church bell told men when to begin work and when to come home from the fields. The villagers spent their spare time for the most part in church. (2) \_\_\_\_\_ The people did not work on these days, and that is how a "holy day" became a "holiday". The church was used not only for the worship of God but also as a store-house, sometimes as a prison. As the church was the strongest building in the village, in times of danger it was used as a fortress.

The houses clustered round the church. Fifty houses were considered a very large village. (3) \_\_\_\_\_ The lord's court was held once a fortnight in the hall of the manor-house and all the villagers were obliged to attend it. Here all disputes and quarrels were settled. Since a rich Norman lord had other houses and estates in different parts of the country, he spent his time travelling from one estate to another. (4) \_\_\_\_\_ The most important Norman nobles lived in castles from which they ruled the village. The manor-court was held in the castle which was also used as a prison.

The castle dominated over the small miserable dwellings of the peasants. They were rough little huts with thatched roofs. (5) \_\_\_\_\_ The only light came from the door when it stood open, and from very small windows that had no glass in them. The peasants huts were very smoky because they had no chimneys. (6) \_\_\_\_\_ The peasants kept their livestock in their houses. Sometimes the whole family lived and slept in one room with their hens, pigs, dogs and all. Inside these houses there would be very little furniture, a wooden table, one or two stools, a few earthen pots, and on the floor, some straw or dead leaves for a bed.

Very few changes came about in the village in England after the Norman Conquest. (7) \_\_\_\_\_ The peasants tilled the land and kept sheep and oxen in the same way as their fathers and grandfathers had done.

But most of them were no longer free men. (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Now the village lands and the villagers themselves belonged to the lord of the manor. Most of the villagers were serfs and they were forced to work for their lords.

**Ex.20. Read the text about the use of land in Anglo-Norman England and complete it with appropriate words, derived from the words in brackets.**

**The Use of Land in Anglo-Norman England**

The amount of land in use was far smaller than it is today. About half the country was forest, marsh or heath, where nobody lived. But all through the 12th century the English were busy (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (colony) their country. This was a process that had been going on since the Stone Age, and it has not quite stopped even now; but (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (probable) more progress was made between about 1100 and 1200 than in any other century. From the Tyne to the Channel, woodland was cleared, marshes were drained, and dykes were built to keep out the sea. It was all done without the help of machines and

with only the simplest tools. Monasteries often took the lead. At Glastonbury Abbey a man was hired full-time as an expert on (3) \_\_\_\_\_(drain), and the Somerset fens, where Iron Age people had built their houses on stilts and Alfred had taken refuge from the Danes, began, slowly, to dry out.

Hundreds of square kilometres were still covered by forests. Perhaps 'for-ests' is not the right word, for they were not dense jungles like the forests of tropical countries but open woodland, with (4) \_\_\_\_\_(grass) glades among the oak, beech and elm. The forests were not (5) \_\_\_\_\_(exact) waste land because they were reserved for a definite purpose - hunting. This was the (6) \_\_\_\_\_(favour) sport of all English kings, and savage penalties, like the chopping off of a hand, waited for any peasant who was caught poaching the king's deer.

The king was (7) \_\_\_\_\_( jealousy) of any (8) \_\_\_\_\_(reduce) of his forests, large as they were, and it was not always easy for a village to get (9) \_\_\_\_\_(permit) to (10) \_\_\_\_\_(large) its fields by clearing trees. But as time went by more and more woodlands were sold off to meet the royal need for cash. By the 16th century, England was actually short of timber , and house-builders had to change from timber to brick.

**Ex.21. You are going to read the text about manor houses in Anglo-Norman England . Some sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from A-H the one which fits each gap.**

<b>A</b>	dividing the hall into three
<b>B</b>	traditional sheep-farming regions of England and Wales
<b>C</b>	chimneys were replacing the open fire
<b>D</b>	peasants cultivating their own strips in the open fields
<b>E</b>	the later type of medieval hall looked like
<b>F</b>	with one large room and perhaps a few smaller ones
<b>G</b>	a kind of loose basketwork plastered with mud
<b>H</b>	a famous example of an aisled hall

**Manor Houses in Norman England**

Parts of England in the 12th century were already gaining an appearance that we would recognize. Some counties looked then much as they look now. Parts of rural Dorset, for example, have not changed greatly, and the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ would not seem strange to someone from the 12th century. But he would certainly notice some changes, not least in the sheep themselves. Medieval sheep looked more like skinny poodles than the fat beasts we know.