

# Welcome to Year 4 Topic

The lesson will begin shortly



Turn your camera and microphone off please

I will know about the four claimants to the English throne.

Key Vocabulary:

Claimant

English throne

I will know about the four claimants to the English throne.

When the English king Edward the Confessor died on 5 January 1066, there was no set person to become King after him.

The Witan (a spreme council of wise men) had to make the decision, and they had four candidates to choose from.



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Edgar the Atheling

Closest blood claimant to Edward

Edgar, a Saxon prince and nephew of Edward, was a sickly fourteen year old boy.

Why might Edgar feel he should be the next king?

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Harold Godwinson

Powerful noble in England, a good soldier and a gifted politician.

Harold was born and bred in England and popular with ordinary people.

He was son of Earl Godwin, the most powerful noble in England.

Why might Harold feel he should be the next king?

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William, Duke of Normandy

Lived in France

William was a distant cousin of Edward the Confessor and wanted to be the next king. He claimed that both Edward and Harold had promised him the throne.

William had been a very successful ruler of Normandy and he thought he could do an equally good job for England.

Why might William feel he should be the next king?

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Harald Hardrada, Viking king of Norway

Hardrada was king of Norway and a direct descendant of the kings of England. He was related to King Canute, the King of England from 1016-1032.

Hardrada wanted to be King of England because he wanted more power and better land. Hardrada was very unpopular, but very powerful.

Why might Harald feel he should be the next king?

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Pause Point:

What are the names of the four claimants to the throne we have just looked at?

Edgar, Harold Godwinson, William, Harald Hardrada,



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### Independent Work

Use the website on your worksheet to find out more about each of the claimants to the English throne.

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Plenary:

Which of the 4 people do you think should be king and why?