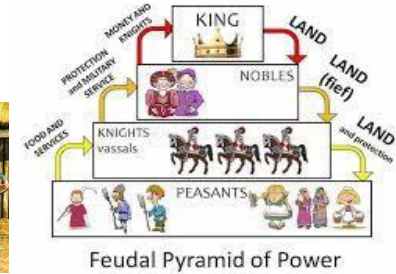


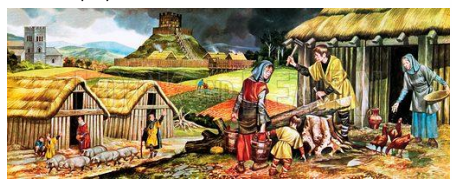
## 1. How controlling was the Feudal System?

- The Feudal system developed as a way of ensuring that kings had troops without having to pay for them. William granted land to his tenants in chief for their loyalty, but they had to provide troops. The tenants-in chief granted land to followers in order to reward them for their loyalty, but also had to provide service obligations (e.g. Knight service – 40 days). The King had ultimate power. The tenants-in-chief answered to the King. The under tenants were less powerful and answered to tenants-in-chief and also swore to be loyal to the King. The peasants farmed and had little power.
- William's idea of feudalism made things simple – it was a new system, it had not been brought over from Normandy. In Norman England, when a landholder died, their heir had to prove his or her loyalty to the king before they were allowed to reclaim it, as well as paying the king for the right to use the land (relief). The relief system encouraged loyalty to the king. Reliefs were a key part of William's strategy for reducing the power of potential challengers for the throne.
- Homage** – tenants-in-chief placed hands on the Bible and promised to remain faithful to the King for the rest of their life.
- Labour Service** – working the lord's lands in return for the use of land. Peasants could farm the land for their own benefit.
- Forfeiture** – if a land user did not provide the service required of them, they could forfeit their land or have to pay a fine.



## 2. Did William improve or destroy the English Church?

**Social roles of the Church:** The Church was a major landowner and managed many estates. The Church also collected taxes to pay the King. It was able to interpret laws and Bishops and abbots could act as judges in shire courts. Church leaders owed William Knight service – it was responsible for providing land for knights and ensuring they were available to serve the King. Bishops were also the heads of Cathedrals, with each cathedral having control of churches in an area (diocese).



- The Church was closely connected to Norman government. Bishops and abbots were valued advisers to the King. Church clerks issues the King's writs and kept charge of the royal seal. Archbishops could also act as the King's representative in negotiations.
- After the rebellions of 1068-170 William appointed Church leaders. In 1070 Stigand, the Archbishop of Canterbury was replaced by Lanfranc.

**Lanfranc's reforms:** Lanfranc was heavily involved in religious reform to separate the Church from money, gaining power etc. He wanted those that worked for the Church to lead a spiritual life and serve God. He banned marriage for the clergy and made celibacy compulsory. He also made sure that court cases that involved the clergy were tried in church courts. Anglo-Saxon cathedrals were knocked down and rebuilt. Archdeacons became more common. Lanfranc also oversaw a revival in monasteries in England and promoted spiritual dedication, study and prayer as well as rooting out corruption of the Church.

- With 50 years of 1066 every English church, cathedral and most abbeys had been demolished and rebuilt by Normans. Normanisation meant that the church was used to strengthen Norman control. Norman bishops and archdeacons influenced the messages people received about the King. It was a major landowner, which stopped possible Anglo-Saxon rebellions.
- The Normanised church also enhanced the king's power as new bishops did homage to the king. The King was also in charge of appointing a successor when a bishop died. William also controlled communication between Church leaders and the Pope in Rome.

## 3. How far did England change under the Normans?

Continuity	Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lives were still dominated by agriculture and surviving disasters and bad harvests.</li> <li>The royal household were the king's personal servants and bodyguard as well as personal advisers.</li> <li>William continued to impose heavy geld taxes and levied it more frequently than before. He used this wealth for Normandy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Castle-building and re-building of churches and cathedrals in stone – they symbolised the power of the Normans</li> <li>Scandinavian trade was broken off – this had an economic impact. Trade with Normandy increased and big English cities, apart from York grew rapidly under the Normans.</li> <li>Tenants-in-chief had same role as Earls but the King had stronger control over tenants-in-chief.</li> <li>Many thegns had been replaced by Knights as they were involved in resistance to the Normans. Tenants-in-chief had control over the Knights if they did not fulfil their obligations (knight service)</li> </ul>

- Gaining control over England's economy reduce the chance of resistance to Norman control. The Normans did at the same time adopt lots of English ways of doing things as it was regarded as rich and sophisticated.

## 4. How did Norman aristocrats show off their wealth?

- They showed off their wealth through buildings. Within 50 years of 1066, every church and most abbeys had been rebuilt – Norman aristocrats were interested in making them bigger (Winchester Cathedral, White Tower, Westminster Great Hall).
- Norman aristocrats shaved the backs of their heads. They also introduced a ceremonial way of butchering the animals they caught. They also brought with them the idea of chivalry.
- They prayed, did penance and gave money to the Church to avoid eternal damnation
- They also brought with them the culture of a single heir inheriting an estate, keeping it all together to preserve family lands.
- Many could speak both French and English
- They often went hunting and admired their kills – showing them off publicly