

Activity: 1. Succession Crisis & Rival Claimants

Duration: 20 minutes minutes

Name: _____

Date: 13 July 2026

Activities in this worksheet:

1. Fill in the Blanks
2. Multiple Choice
3. Match Up
4. Crossword Puzzle
5. Word Search

1. Fill in the Blanks

1. In January 1066, King Edward the Confessor died, leaving no _____. This led to a _____ crisis with several claimants. Harold Godwinson claimed the throne, stating Edward _____ it to him on his deathbed. William of Normandy argued that Harold had sworn an _____ to support his claim. Harald Hardrada of Norway asserted the _____ tied to earlier Viking agreements. Edgar Atheling, despite being a blood _____, was too young and lacked support.

Word Bank:

oath promised heir succession right relative

2. Multiple Choice

1. Who was supported by the Pope and argued his claim based on a promise made in 1051?

- ☐ A. Harald Hardrada
- ☐ B. Harold Godwinson
- ☐ C. Edgar Atheling
- ☐ D. William of Normandy

3. Match Up

Draw a line to match each item on the left with the correct item on the right.

Column A

1. Harold Godwinson

2. William of Normandy

3. Harald Hardrada

4. Edgar Atheling

Column B

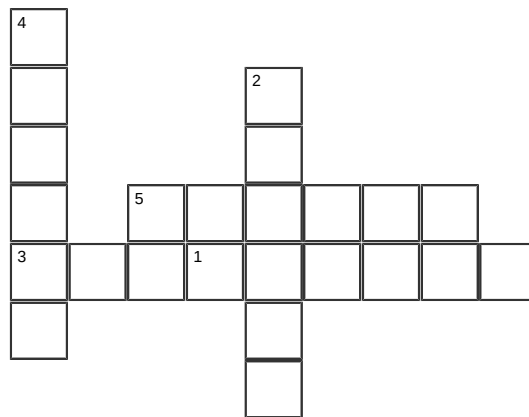
A. Received the Pope's support and a promise from Edward

B. Direct bloodline to Edward

C. Based claim on Viking agreements

D. Claimed Edward promised him the throne on his deathbed

4. Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. Earl of Wessex crowned king in 1066
2. Duke William's homeland
3. Sworn promise supporting a claim
4. Conflict resulting from the succession crisis

DOWN

1. Council that advised the king
2. Harald Hardrada's background
3. The Confessor who left no heir

5. Word Search

O	L	N	R	H	M	Y	F	N	S	X	P	A	Q
Q	K	U	R	H	U	Z	M	A	U	E	E	O	R
W	O	S	C	Y	C	G	L	T	C	U	N	I	W
P	G	U	K	L	A	I	S	H	C	V	G	U	Z
P	R	H	W	H	A	G	N	E	E	Q	L	R	R
N	M	O	A	R	X	R	D	L	S	O	A	F	R
O	L	I	M	R	R	J	J	I	S	G	N	I	D
B	O	Z	S	I	D	N	V	N	I	U	D	I	M
L	M	D	X	I	S	R	A	G	O	P	K	C	D
E	D	D	U	S	S	E	A	J	N	F	M	Y	I
S	C	X	J	Z	F	G	P	D	Z	G	T	H	V
H	N	S	N	S	R	H	D	U	A	A	D	M	M
J	S	Q	P	C	O	N	Q	U	E	S	T	I	L
L	P	I	Y	Y	P	K	X	H	B	K	K	Y	Z

Find these words:

- ATHELING
- CONQUEST
- HARDRADA
- SUCCESSION
- PROMISE
- ENGLAND
- NOBLES