

Task 1

Using your notes, textbook and/or online research, complete the table to summarise the revolts. You need to be very succinct. Some have been done for you.

Revolt	Leaders/conspirators	Why it started	Key events	Outcome	Reasons for failure
1068 Edwin and Morcar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earl Edwin of Mercia • Earl Morcar of Northumbria 				
Jan 1069 Durham and York		<i>Discontent amongst Saxons due to their harsh treatment by the Normans.</i>			
Summer 1069 the North	<i>Edgar Aethling</i>			<i>Defeated by William, who then launched the 'Harrying of the North' as punishment.</i>	
1070-71 East Anglia		<i>Hereward's brother was murdered by Normans.</i>			
1075 Revolt of the Earls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earl Roger of Hereford • Earl Ralph of East Anglia • Earl Waltheof of Northumbria 			<i>Ralph fled to Brittany, Roger was imprisoned for life and Waltheof was executed.</i>	

Task 2

In pairs, play 'guess the revolt'. Take it in turns to think of one of the revolts at a time. The other one of you then asks questions to find out which revolt you're thinking of. Your questions must have a yes/no answer and you need to ask at least five before you can guess which it is. A good question to start off with could be 'did it happen in the year 1069?'

Task 3

You could get a question in the exam which asks you to compare some of the revolts or asks you about their overall causes and reasons for failure. To answer this successfully, you will need to categorise and then give specific, accurate examples. Practise doing this with this question:

'Explain why the revolts against William in the years 1068 to 1071 failed.'

Advice:

1. Use the final column of your table and create a mindmap of all the reasons why the revolts failed.
 - a. You can be specific (e.g. one reason Hereward's revolt in 1070-71 failed was because of William's leadership and persistence in reaching the Isle of Ely to defeat the rebels).
 - b. You can also make more general points (most of the revolts were poorly led or the different groups involved were uncoordinated).
2. Now group all your reasons into big categories. Aim for three. These will become your paragraphs.
3. Start writing! You should use a big point to open each paragraph - briefly sum up the category and use a focus phrase to show you're thinking about the question, e.g. 'One reason why the revolts failed was ...'.
4. Explain the idea behind each category carefully: why exactly did it cause revolts to fail?
5. Support your explanation with plenty of accurate and relevant examples.
6. Finish with a short conclusion: sum up the reasons and suggest why one may have been more important than the others.