



GCSE HISTORY

Paper 2B/A: Norman England, c1066–c1100

Interpretations Booklet

Interpretation A for use in answering Question 01

Interpretation A An interpretation of the impact of the Normans on English monasteries.

Adapted from an article by Hugh Lawrence, in 'History Today', 1986.

English monasticism after the Conquest was transformed by the aggressive building of new monasteries occupied by monks from France. This was deeply disturbing for English monks, who had to accept new Norman superiors. Tension was heightened by the lack of respect shown for English customs. But the Normans breathed fresh intellectual life into the English monasteries through new learning from the continent along with different customs.

END OF INTERPRETATIONS

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