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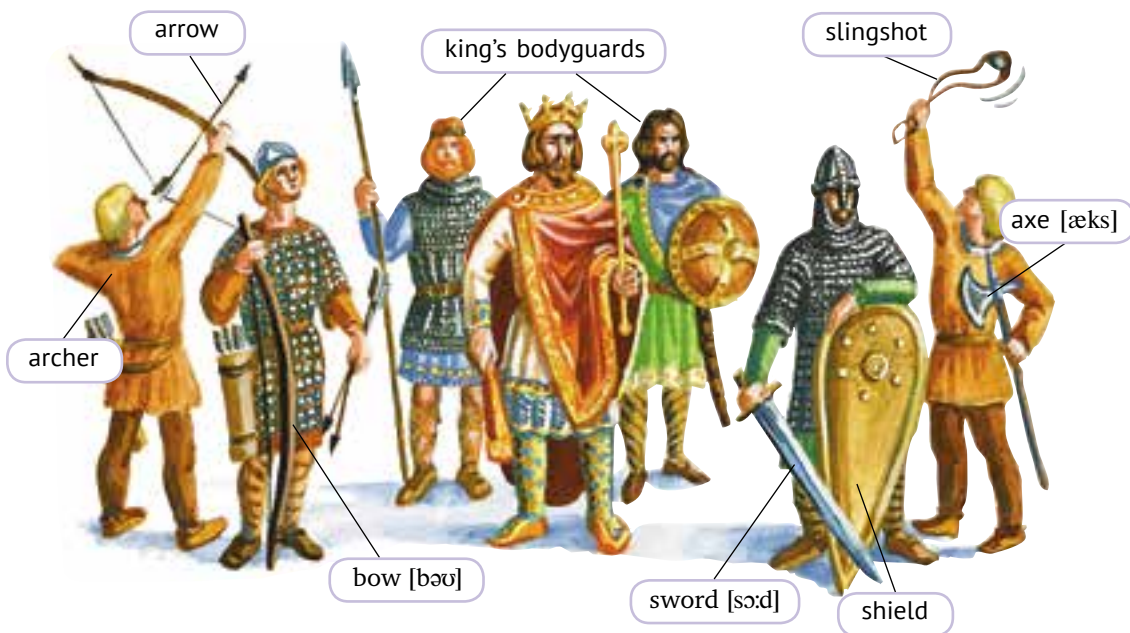
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CHAPTER 5

The Battle of Hastings

- Look at the picture and translate the words.



- Try to give the right answers.

1. 1066 год — одна из важнейших дат в истории Англии, потому что в этом году
 - a) был основан Лондон.
 - b) раздробленные королевства соединились в одно.
 - c) Англию завоевали норманны.

2. The Battle of Hastings означает
а) битва при городе Гастингсе. б) битва короля Гастингса.
с) битва англичан с гастингсами.
3. Норманны пришли из
а) Германии. б) Скандинавии. с) Франции.

• **Read the story and check your answers.**

Elmer, an Anglo-Saxon boy, was hiding in a big tree. He had promised his father to stay at home. But on that early morning of October 14, 1066 he had secretly come to watch a battle. The battle was going to change Britain for ever.

Now Elmer could see his father with his long shield. He was one of King Harold Godwinson's bodyguards. He had joined the king's army that had just come back from fighting the Norwegians in the north of Britain.

At the front of the army the Anglo-Saxon soldiers made a wall of shields. Below them, at the bottom of the hill, were the Normans.

A few days before things had been so very different. It had been a peaceful, sunny afternoon, and Elmer had been fishing in the little river near the house.

Suddenly a horse had stopped in front of Elmer's father.

"My lord," the rider could hardly breathe, "Normans!"

"Normans? Where?"

"Hastings."

"How many ships?"

"Five hundred, six hundred, maybe more. They have horses with them and archers — hundreds of them."

"So they have come," said Elmer's father with a sigh. "William and his Frenchmen!"

"Why does everybody want to fight us, Father?" Elmer asked.

"Because England is a rich country, son, and because our last king, Edward, couldn't decide."

"Couldn't decide what?"

"Who should be the next king. Edward didn't have a son, and William and Harold are both Edward's relatives, you see. First, he promised his crown to

