**THE NORMAN CONQUEST AND WALES**

**Read the information below and then answer the question that follows in full sentences.**

Rhys ap Tewdwr had ruled *Deheubarth* (South Wales) since 1081, with the agreement of King William. However, in 1093, the Normans killed Rhys ap Tewdwr, ‘with whom fell the kingdom of the Britons’ according to the B*rut y Tywysogion.* The source states that within months of Rhys ap Tewdwr’s death, Normans had taken over significant areas of Wales and had built castles to subdue the local populations, ‘and then the French seized all the lands of the Britons’. A year later, the sources mention that the Welsh attempted to rebel against the Normans with some success, destroying a castle at Gwynedd. The following source from Henry of Huntington gives more information about what happened in the years after:

**Henry of Huntingdon, *The History of the English People 1000–1154***

*In the tenth year of his reign (1097), William the Younger, returned to England on the eve of Easter and landed at Arundel. After he had joyously worn his crown at Windsor at Whitsun (24 May), he marched into Wales with a large army and defeated numerous bands of Welshmen, but also lost many of his own men in the narrow defiles of those regions. So, seeing that they could not be conquered, more because of the nature of the terrain than from their valour and arms, he had castles built on the borders of Wales and returned to England.*

Image: **www.castlesfortsbattles.co.uk/south\_wales/assets/norman\_penetration\_wales\_1150.png**

Offa’s Dyke was built in the eighth century and was named after the Anglo-Saxon king of Mercia, Offa, who is thought to have ordered its construction.​

The Normans built several castles in the areas shown under their control on the map. The area along the border between Wales and England became known as the Welsh Marches and had the densest concentration of motte and bailey castles of anywhere in the kingdom.​

The Lords who ruled the Marcher earldoms had special powers granted to them, with more independence to rule over their land than other earls.​

**QUESTION: What does this information tell us about when and how the people of Wales were conquered by the Normans? Write out the question, and answer in full sentences.**