

# Grade 9 Answer

## Account Question

8  
Marks

### Question:

Write an account of the ways in which the Church changed under the Normans.  
(8 marks)

### Answer:

Firstly, the Church changed under the Normans because of the reforms of Lanfranc. In 1070, William I replaced the current Archbishop of Canterbury, Stigand, who was a corrupt Anglo-Saxon, with Lanfranc, who was a Norman Monk. Lanfranc was a very strict leader and introduced many reforms to the Church. One major reform was the challenge to simony, which was the practice of buying or selling leadership positions or privileges in relation to the Church. This was a common practice in Anglo-Saxon England, however Lanfranc believed positions should be earned in the Church. Additionally, Lanfranc achieved stricter obedience from England's priests to church rulers, and preached strong loyalty to William I. Therefore, the Church changes under the Normans because Lanfranc made many reforms, in an attempt to make the Church less corrupt and more obedient than it had been during the Anglo-Saxon period.

The Church also changed under the Normans because the organisation of the Church changed. The organisation of churches was made much tighter, and the Normans introduced new roles of arch-deacons and deans. Therefore, the Church hierarchy changed, with the Pope at the top, then Archbishops, Bishops (who controlled the diocese), Archdeacons (who assisted the bishop), Deans (who ran deaneries) and Parish Priests (who ran churches) at the bottom. This more centralised organisation meant that each level was more answerable to the person above. This also meant that local priests were kept under the control of the central bishops, so they could be controlled more than Anglo-Saxon priests were. Therefore, the Church changed greatly under the Normans because they changed how churches were organised, making them more centralised in England.

### Feedback:

This answer would get 8/8 marks because the pupil has identified 2 key changes to the Church under the Normans (Lanfranc's reforms and organisation of the Church). They have explained each point in depth using historical information, and written the events in chronological order, using links between the points.

