**English written test III** Lisa Cicogna 3ALS

**OPTION : A**

After the death of Edward II the Confessor, his brother in law Harold took the crown.

William, duke of Normandy, invaded England and in 1066 defeated the Anglo-Saxons during the battle of Hastings. The date is one of the most important in English history.

The Anglo-Saxon aristocracy was replaced by William’s followers; furthermore another visible sign of Norman’s rule was the creation of many churches. On a linguistic level there was an injection of romance language in the country.

English people weren’t very happy about all the changes, so William to show them he was interested in the locals and ready to understand the real situation among the people decided to start a survey. He decided to collect all information in a book: The Domsday Book.

After the death of William, his three sons, Robert, William II and Henry started the war of succession because they all wanted the crown.

Henry and William II ruled England while Robert became the duke of Normandy. When Henry died, his daughter Matilda didn’t receive the throne because the nobles and the barons preferred his nephew Stephen as king.

In England wars went on and the population questioned an arrangement between Stephen and Henry II. The arrangement was that Stephen took the crown but he would be succeed by Henry II at his death.

Henry II r-established royal authority and order in the kingdom. He introduced the “common law” the basis of modern jury system. He demanded the all clergy convicted of a crime should be judged by royal courts, disregarding clerical immunity.

Thomas Becket, friend of William II and archbishop of Canterbury unspectaly was against this. He was murdered by four knights.

The monarchy was at the risiko because the king imposed new taxes. In 1215 the powered people negotied whit him “Magna Carta” that reduced the power of the king. This was the first time something like that happened.

In 1679 the Parliament passed the “Habeas Corpus” act. Its origin goes back to the “Magna Carta” Article 39, but it consists more in the fact that all prisoners must be taken in to court.