

The history teacher had been given the cursed Friday afternoon lesson which normally consisted of pupils talking among themselves and discussing what they were going to do at the weekend while the teacher valiantly tried to get through the material of the lesson in vain.

However, the teacher said that we were to have a different lesson that day. He took us all to the drama theatre and passed out a plastic sword and shield and we lined up on the stage. The teacher explained that we were going to re-enact the Battle of Hastings.

Throughout the lesson we re-enacted the battle, half the class as Normans, and the other half as Saxons, with the teacher giving step by step analysis of the battle while we acted out what he said.

By the end of the lesson we had finished the battle and had even seen a death scene from a student!(...) I hadn't realized that history could be so interesting. I know that the lesson was etched onto my brain because when I took an exam I remembered the lesson vividly.

*Reaching Boys, Teaching Boys, M.Reichert & R.Hawley(2010)*