England and France Develop
As the kingdoms of England and France began to develop into nations, certain
democratic traditions evolved.
Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms
By the early 800’s, small Anglo-Saxon kingdoms covered the former Roman
province.
The Anglo-Saxons were a result of years of invaders from Denmark and
Germany
England or Angles were a result of German tribes
Normandy was a land in Northern France that had been invaded by vikings.
In 1066 King Edward of England dies without an heir.
His cousin, William the Conqueror from Normandy claims the English crown and
invades England.
On October 14, 1066, The Battle of Hastings is a battle between the Normans
and Saxons over control of England.
Victory belongs to William and he claims all of England as his own property. He
grants fiefs to 200 Norman lords and sets foundations for a centralized
government.
English King Marries French Queen
This brings lots of land.
Henry and Eleanor have four sons including two kings of England: John and
Richard (the lion hearted)
Royal judges collected taxes, settled land suits and punish crimes
Introduced the use of a jury system
Facilitates common law
King Henry is succeeded by Richard (the Crusades guy)
When Richard dies, Joh rules from 1199-1216
John loses all lands in France and fails as a military leader.
John was a mean king and is always trying to squeeze the lords for more “juice.”
After trying to raise taxes to finance his wars, the lords revolt.
On June 15, 1215, the lords force John to agree to the most celebrated
document in English history: The Magna Carta
The Magna Carta guaranteed certain basic political rights
Its main purpose was to safeguard lords’ feudal rights and limit the king’s
powers.
In time it allows English people of all classes to argue that it applies to every
citizen
Guaranteed rights included: