

Attacking Mont Orgueil Castle

In order to make sure that an invading army could take over Jersey and hold it, they had to capture Mont Orgueil Castle. To make sure this did not happen the Kings of England spent a lot of time and money building a castle to fight off attacks.

1 Why was Gorey such a good place to chose to build a castle?

2 There are only three ways for an invading army to get into a castle. They can go over the wall, under the wall or through the wall.

What would you use to

A get over the wall? _____

B get under the wall? _____

C go through the wall? _____

3 Look carefully at the gates. How did the castle builders make it difficult for an attacker to break through a gate.

4 The castle is divided up into different areas called wards (sometimes called baileys). How many are there here at Mont Orgueil?

5 How many gates would an attacker have to fight his way through before he reached the entrance to the keep?

6 The first mention of gunpowder being used in the castle was in 1327. Gradually the castle had to adapted to take guns into account. Make a list of how the castle changed to meet the demands of cannon.

Of course, you could always try tricking your way into the castle or you could try to starve the garrison out.