

Name:

Period:

Questions About the "Background Essay: The Medieval World"

Introduction

1.) What were the years of the early Middle Ages: _____

2.) What were the years of the late Middle Ages: _____

The Fall of Rome

3.) What is *the* big event that usually signals the beginning of the Middle Ages? _____

4.) The area surrounding the Mediterranean Sea had been dominated by what two groups?

_____ and the _____

5.) The Romans copied much of what the Greek's had given to Western civilization (drama, philosophy, architecture, science, history...). What did the Roman's advance?

6.) When did the Roman Empire fall? _____

7.) What were five reasons that the empire fell?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Charlemagne

8.) Where did the center or focus of power move after the fall of Rome? _____

9.) Name four rulers who ruled over the Franks: _____ ,

_____ , _____ , _____

10.) Charles the Great was also known as _____ .

11.) What armies were the Franks trying to “keep at bay”? _____

12.) What were the Franks trying to promote? _____

13.) Charlemagne encouraged learning and set up a palace school. Who did he appoint as the teacher of this school?

14.) What language did Charlemagne order to be taught and used in the schools and libraries?

_____ and Why? _____

Feudalism

15.) In what year did Charlemagne die? _____

16.) What is one thing that took place after Charlemagne’s death? _____

17.) What system promised to bring order during the Middle Ages? _____

18.) Explain in one sentence what feudalism is: _____

19.) How long did feudalism dominate Europe? _____

20.) In the system of feudalism, what did the lord give his vassals (favored subjects)? _____

21.) What did the vassals give the lord in return? _____

22.) Who worked the land? _____

23.) What rights did a peasant have, and how were peasants thought of?

_____ and

24.) The plots of land that a lord gave his vassals had two different names. What were these plots of land called?

_____ and _____

Life on a Manor

25.) Who ruled over a manor or estate? _____ and _____

26.) What did a peasant “give” to the vassal in exchange for living on the land?

27.) In addition to being “given” land to live on, what else did a vassal give to the peasant?

_____ and

28.) During the three days a week that a serf worked for the master, what were two tasks he performed?

_____, _____,

29.) What were three ways this text described the life of a serf?

_____, _____, _____

30.) What does the text mean when it states that “manors were mostly self-contained and self-sufficient economic units”? You may want to find the definitions of: self-contained, self-sufficient, and economic, and you will use your own background knowledge.

Knights and Warfare

31.) What was the name of the warrior class of men? _____
(Please give my apologies to Joan of Arc!)

32.) Did knights protect the land of only one king? _____

33.) List four weapons that a knight used: _____

34.) Did a knight primarily (mainly) fight large, important battles? _____

35.) List three reasons that battles took place:

_____, _____, _____

36.) Complete the following sentences as it was written in the text:

....these medieval skirmishes were fought man to man, hand to hand, in armor so heavy that a few blows could cause _____ .

37.) When a knight was knocked off his horse it meant that he had _____ .

38.) Complete this sentence: For knights, warfare was a way of _____ .

39.) What were mock battles called? _____

40.) Why did knights engage in mock battles? _____

Chivalry

41.) What was the formal code of behavior among medieval knights called? _____

42.) What did this code of behavior mentioned in the question above combine?

_____ and _____

43.) What were the virtues of knighthood? _____ ,

_____ , and _____ .

44.) What is one example of a rule of warfare? _____

45.) Did most knights obey the chivalrous code? _____

46.) What are two words this text uses to describe warfare in the Middle Ages?

_____ and _____

47.) What did the amount of “drudgery” in a woman’s life depend upon what two things?

_____ and _____

48.) Did noblewomen have more rights than peasant women? _____

49.) The quality of life for a noble’s wife was better and less dangerous than that of a peasant’s wife. She often received instruction in what three areas:

_____ , _____ , _____

50.) Sometimes a noble woman was fortunate enough to receive instruction in:

_____ and _____

51.) In about the year 1100, the code of chivalry placed noblewomen on pedestals as object to be

_____ and _____.

Medieval Women

52.) Most women were limited to what two things during the Middle Ages?

_____ and _____

53.) Was the life for most medieval ladies, including ladies of the castle ideal or romantic? _____

Castles

54.) Who lived in castles? _____ and _____

55.) List three things that castles were made up of: _____,

_____, _____,

56.) What was a keep? _____

57.) What was contained in the keep? _____, _____,

and a _____.

58.) What part of a castle did the lords and ladies live in? _____

59.) What could be found nearby the keep? _____,

_____, _____, _____,

60.) What four groups of people lived in the rooms that were nearby the keep? _____,

_____, _____, _____,

61.) What were four types of entertainment that could be found inside a castle? _____,

_____, _____, _____,

62.) Peasant had to face the fear of _____

more than lords and ladies living in a castle.

63.) Sometimes lords and ladies had to endure long castle _____ .

64.) When food supplies dwindled during a castle siege, what did the lords and ladies sometimes have to eat?

_____, _____, _____

The Church

65.) What does the text mean when it states: "Permeating the lives of lords and ladies and the peasants of the manor was the Catholic Church"? You may need to define the word "permeating" in order to answer this question and use your background knowledge.

66.) After the fall of Rome, what became the center of daily life in every village, castle, and town?

67.) Why do many historians refer to the Middle Ages as the "Age of Faith"?

68.) How many days a week was religion important to people in the Middle Ages? _____

69.) What was important about Fridays in the Middle Ages? What was is dedicated to?

70.) When the faithful went to Mass on Sundays, what were they being reminded of?

71.) What did most holidays on the Christian calendar honor? _____

72.) Who was the *unquestioned* spiritual leader for the church? _____

73.) Who did this *unquestioned* spiritual leader delegate authority to through Europe?

_____ and _____

74.) Who made sure the Catholic beliefs reached the "unwashed masses" on a daily basis? _____

75.) Who was referred to as the "soldiers of the church"? _____

76.) What two religious orders did these “soldiers of the church” meet for people?

_____ and _____

77.) What were large churches known as? _____

78.) How long did these large churches mentioned in the question above take to be built?

79.) What did these large churches bring to nearby towns? _____

Crusades

80.) What does this text claim what one of the church’s greatest glories, in addition to the magnificent cathedrals?

81.) When did the crusades to the Holy Land take place? _____

82.) What inspired Christians to journey to the Holy Land (land in Palestine and the city of Jerusalem)?

83.) In 1096, what land did Christians try to recapture? _____

84.) In addition to “Christian obligation,” what were two other things that motivated Christians to engage in the crusades?

_____ and _____

85.) What two leaders led the so-call First Crusade? _____

and _____

86.) How does the text describe the “soldiers” that these two leaders take on the crusade?

87.) How many of these 12,000 soldiers made it to Constantinople? _____

88.) Did most of the soldiers to went to fight the Saracens (also known as Muslims) have military skills?

The Crusade of Kings

89.) What three kings was the Crusade of Kings named after? _____ ,
_____ , _____

90.) Did this crusade fail? _____

91.) What two reasons did this crusade succeed or fail? _____

92.) How did this crusade end? _____

93.) What three ways did the Crusades have an impact on Western Europe?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Trade and Town Life

94.) When did growth of trade, towns, and craft unions (known as guilds) begin? _____

95.) Trade fairs along coastlines became _____.

96.) People who participated in these fairs established headquarters that then turned into _____.

97.) What were three groups of artisans that moved into these towns.? _____
_____ , _____

98.) What was the name of the class of townspeople who were focused on making a profit? _____

99.) Was this class of people, listed in the question above peasants, nobles or neither? _____

100.) What did the towns turn into? _____

101.) What four words are used to describe the place that the towns turned into as noted in the question above?

_____ , _____ , _____ ,

and _____ .

Guilds

102.) What happened to the new merchant or middle class as time went on? _____

and _____

103.) What was a guild? _____

104.) What power or control did guilds have? _____,

and established codes on _____, _____, and _____.

105.) What is the order of the three stages of training for a craftsman: 1) _____

2) _____ and 3) _____

106.) Why were pictures used on the colorful signs used to advertise each business?

107.) What happened to feudalism as towns grew and the middle class gained influence?

108.) What happened to the manorial system? _____

109.) What era followed the Middle Ages? _____

Words to Define

waned -

century -

decade -

monotonous -

insignificant -

venerated -

minstrels -

troubadours -

delegated -

cardinal (not the bird or color) -

bishop -

prosperity -

artisans -