

Medieval History Basics

Medieval History · Practice Test · 23 Questions

1. What is the approximate time period of the Middle Ages?

- A) 500 AD to 1500 AD
- B) 1000 BC to 500 BC
- C) 1500 AD to 1800 AD
- D) 500 BC to 1000 BC

2. Which of the following was a powerful religious and political force in Medieval Europe?

- A) The Roman Catholic Church
- B) The Viking Confederacy
- C) The Byzantine Empire
- D) The Han Dynasty

3. What was the system of land ownership and obligations in Medieval Europe called?

- A) Feudalism
- B) Capitalism
- C) Socialism
- D) Communism

4. Who was a famous Frankish king who united much of Western Europe and was crowned Emperor by the Pope in 800 AD?

- A) Charlemagne
- B) King Arthur
- C) Genghis Khan
- D) William the Conqueror

5. What were large, fortified castles primarily built for in Medieval times?

- A) Defense and protection
- B) Religious worship
- C) Trade and commerce
- D) Public housing

6. What was the name of the series of religious wars between Christians and Muslims for control of the Holy Land?

- A) The Crusades
- B) The Hundred Years' War
- C) The Punic Wars
- D) The Peloponnesian War

7. Which city was the capital of the Byzantine Empire and a major center of trade and culture?

- A) Constantinople
- B) Rome
- C) Athens
- D) Alexandria

8. What significant event in 1066 greatly influenced the history and language of England?

- A) The Norman Conquest
- B) The Battle of Hastings
- C) The signing of the Magna Carta
- D) The Black Death

9. What were the elected representatives of towns and cities called in some medieval parliaments?

- A) Burgesses
- B) Knights
- C) Barons
- D) Serfs

10. What was the primary occupation for most people in Medieval Europe?

- A) Farming
- B) Blacksmithing
- C) Weaving
- D) Sailing

11. What disease swept through Europe in the mid-14th century, killing a large portion of its population?

- A) The Black Death
- B) The Spanish Flu
- C) The Bubonic Plague
- D) The Great Plague

12. What type of architecture, characterized by pointed arches, ribbed vaults, and flying buttresses, became prominent in the High Middle Ages?

- A) Gothic
- B) Romanesque
- C) Baroque
- D) Classical

13. What was the name given to the code of conduct expected of knights?

- A) Chivalry
- B) Bushido
- C) Samurai Code
- D) Knightly Order

14. In the feudal system, who was at the bottom of the social hierarchy, bound to the land?

- A) Serfs
- B) Lords
- C) Knights
- D) Bishops

15. What was the name of the document signed in 1215 that limited the power of the English king?

- A) Magna Carta
- B) Declaration of Independence
- C) Bill of Rights
- D) Constitution

16. What was the primary purpose of medieval monasteries?

- A) To preserve knowledge and provide a center for prayer and work
- B) To train soldiers for battle
- C) To host royal courts
- D) To operate markets and trade

17. Which group of warriors from Scandinavia raided and traded across Europe in the early Middle Ages?

- A) Vikings
- B) Saxons
- C) Celts
- D) Normans

18. What important invention, originating in China and spreading to Europe, greatly improved the efficiency of writing and record-keeping?

- A) Papermaking
- B) The printing press
- C) The compass
- D) Gunpowder

19. Who were the warrior-monks who fought in the Crusades?

- A) Knights Templar
- B) Benedictines
- C) Franciscans
- D) Cistercians

20. What were the large agricultural estates worked by peasants called in the early Middle Ages?

- A) Manors
- B) Guilds
- C) Villages
- D) Cities

21. What was the name of the powerful empire in the East that continued Roman traditions after the fall of the Western Roman Empire?

- A) Byzantine Empire
- B) Ottoman Empire
- C) Persian Empire
- D) Holy Roman Empire

22. What was the main form of currency used for trade in much of Medieval Europe?

- A) Gold and silver coins
- B) Barter and trade goods
- C) Paper money
- D) Shells

23. What were associations of merchants or craftsmen who regulated trade and quality in towns called?

- A) Guilds
- B) Syndicates
- C) Cooperatives
- D) Cartels