

Medieval History Fundamentals

History · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which document was signed by King John of England in 1215, limiting the power of the monarchy?

- A) The Domesday Book
- B) Magna Carta**
- C) The Treaty of Verdun
- D) The Edict of Nantes

2. What architectural style, characterized by pointed arches and flying buttresses, dominated the later Middle Ages?

- A) Romanesque
- B) Baroque
- C) Gothic**
- D) Neoclassical

3. Which city served as the capital of the Byzantine Empire?

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

4. Who was the Frankish king crowned Holy Roman Emperor on Christmas Day in 800 AD?

- A) Charles Martel
- B) Clovis I
- C) Charlemagne**
- D) Louis the Pious

5. What was the system of land ownership and social hierarchy common in medieval Europe?

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

6. Which major conflict between England and France lasted from 1337 to 1453?

- A) The War of the Roses
- B) The Thirty Years' War
- C) The Hundred Years' War**
- D) The Crusades

7. What was the main purpose of the Crusades?

- A) To trade silk with China
- B) To capture the Holy Land**
- C) To discover the Americas
- D) To unite the Germanic tribes

8. Which plague pandemic swept through Europe in the mid-14th century, significantly reducing the population?

- A) Smallpox
- B) The Black Death**
- C) Cholera
- D) Influenza

9. What was the primary role of a monk in a medieval monastery?

- A) To lead armies
- B) To trade goods
- C) To pray and copy manuscripts**
- D) To collect taxes

10. Which invention allowed medieval knights to fight effectively from horseback?

- A) The wheel
- B) The stirrup**
- C) The musket
- D) The compass

11. What was the 'Domesday Book' commissioned by William the Conqueror used for?

- A) Recording religious laws
- B) A survey of land and property**
- C) Listing royal genealogy
- D) A medical encyclopedia

12. Who was the young French woman who helped lead French armies during the Hundred Years' War?

- A) Marie Antoinette
- B) Joan of Arc**
- C) Catherine de' Medici
- D) Eleanor of Aquitaine

13. What is the name of the decorative, hand-written illustrations found in medieval books?

A) Hieroglyphs

B) Illuminated manuscripts

C) Frescoes

D) Woodcuts

14. In the feudal system, what was a piece of land granted to a vassal called?

A) A fief

B) A parish

C) A commune

D) A manor

15. Which English king was defeated by William the Conqueror at the Battle of Hastings in 1066?

A) Edward the Confessor

B) Harold Godwinson

C) Richard the Lionheart

D) Henry II

16. What were the fortified residences of nobility during the Middle Ages called?

A) Palaces

B) Castles

C) Villas

D) Townhouses

17. The 'Great Schism' of 1054 resulted in a permanent split between the Catholic Church and which other church?

A) Protestant Church

B) Eastern Orthodox Church

C) Anglican Church

D) Coptic Church

18. Which group of seafaring people from Scandinavia conducted raids across Europe between the 8th and 11th centuries?

A) The Mongols

B) The Huns

C) The Vikings

D) The Moors

19. What was a 'guild' in a medieval town?

- A) A type of currency
- B) An association of craftspeople or merchants**
- C) A religious holiday
- D) A military rank

20. The period known as the 'Middle Ages' sits between the fall of the Roman Empire and which other era?

- A) The Enlightenment
- B) The Renaissance**
- C) The Industrial Revolution
- D) The Space Age