

Medieval History Fundamentals

History · Practice Test · 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