

Questions About the Feudal System in Western Europe
7th Grade Social Studies

1. In the feudal system, people who lived as peasants and worked the lord's land were not free to leave. What were these people known as?
 - a. serfs
 - b. knights
 - c. barbarians
 - d. Franks

2. A successful and powerful group during the feudal period was the Franks. What made them successful?
 - a. they had a dominant naval force
 - b. they had troops of heavily-armed warriors, called knights, that fought on horseback
 - c. they had the best medical skills of any peoples
 - d. none of the above

3. Who was considered the most important leader of the Franks, who encouraged education and scholarship, and was called by one of his court poets, the "King Father of France"?
 - a. Conan, the Barbarian
 - b. Lance Armstrong
 - c. Julius Caesar
 - d. Charlemagne

4. What was the purpose of establishing the system of feudalism?
 - a. to build hospitals and educate doctors
 - b. to provide protection for the population and create a stable social order
 - c. to imprison all those who practiced Christianity
 - d. none of the above

5. Most medieval monarchs (kings and queens) believed in the divine right of kings. What did this mean?
 - a. that their power was earned by virtue of hard work and education
 - b. that they had been elected by a vote of the people
 - c. that god had given them the right to rule
 - d. that only those who could speak, read, and write in Latin had the right to rule

6. What purpose(s) did a medieval castle serve?
 - a. it served as a home for the monarchy
 - b. it provided a strong defense against attackers
 - c. it reminded the peasant classes that their status was beneath that of the high-ranking nobles
 - d. all of the above

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7. Which was true about life in medieval feudal society?
 - a. the rich and powerful depended on the loyalty and work of the people of the peasant class
 - b. people, even the rich, lived in cold, dark, and disease-ridden conditions
 - c. attacks and war were always a concern
 - d. all of the above were true

8. What was the role of a squire during feudal times?
 - a. to teach a knight how to fight in battles
 - b. to serve a knight with his needs, and the needs of his horse, and to train to become a knight himself
 - c. to plow the fields before planting season
 - d. to create fine embroidered fabrics for the ladies of the court to wear on special occasions

9. What led to the end of the institution of knighthood?
 - a. people got tired of all the bloodshed and death
 - b. death, because of diseases, wiped out all the knights
 - c. maintaining horses and heavy armor was too expensive
 - d. the growing use of guns and cannons in battle made knights less effective

10. How did the lords profit from the work of the peasants on their land?
 - a. peasants that grew crops on the lord's land had to give some of what they grew to the lord as taxes
 - b. peasants did skilled work such as carpentry (wood working), blacksmithing (metal working), and child care for the lords
 - c. peasants had to pay an annual tax to the lord called "head money" for each peasant living on the lord's land
 - d. all of the above

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