

GII-The Middle Ages

Powerful Institutions of the Middle Ages

- The Middle Ages began after the fall of Rome
- The Catholic Church was the most powerful institution
- Government: absolute monarchy = where the king or queen has absolute power (appeared toward the end of the Middle Ages)

Feudalism

- After Rome fell, chaos caused people to need protection → feudalism which offered safety + stability
- Created in Western Europe and Japan
- The king granted land and protection to a lord in return for loyalty and military service
- King: most power
- Lords: gave out the land
- Knights: soldiers, followed code of chivalry (warrior's code)
- Peasants: farmed the land
- Serfs: bound to the land, had no political power

Magna Carta

- Written 1215 in England to protest abuses of King John
- Limited the power of the monarch

Guilds

- Middle Age trade union where craftsmen organized to control prices and quality of goods
- Start as an apprentice and work toward becoming a master craftsmen

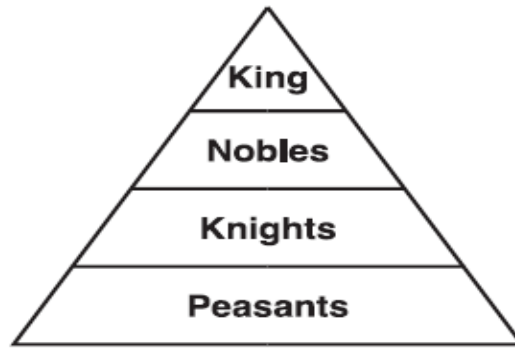
The Manor

- Manorialism is an economic system during the Middle Ages
- Agriculture was the primary focus on the manor
- The Manor was self-sufficient: produce and provided for itself

Sample Questions

1. During the early Middle Ages, western European societies were most influenced by
 - (1) national monarchies
 - (2) the Roman Catholic Church
 - (3) elected parliaments
 - (4) the Byzantine emperors
2. In Western Europe, the Middle Ages began after the collapse of which empire?
 - (1) Mughal
 - (2) Roman
 - (3) Ottoman
 - (4) Byzantine
3. Feudalism influenced Europe and Japan by
 - (1) providing social stability
 - (2) fostering the growth of religion
 - (3) eliminating warfare
 - (4) encouraging formal education
4. Which practice in medieval Europe was most similar to a Japanese warrior's code of bushido?
 - (1) indulgences
 - (2) serfdom
 - (3) chivalry
 - (4) tribute
5. The feudal systems in both medieval Europe and early Japan were characterized by
 - (1) a decentralized political system
 - (2) religious diversity
 - (3) an increased emphasis on education
 - (4) the development of a wealthy middle class

European Feudal System



6. The illustration represents a society based on

- (1) social class
- (2) educational achievement
- (3) accumulated wealth
- (4) political ability

7. This illustration suggests that the European feudal system was

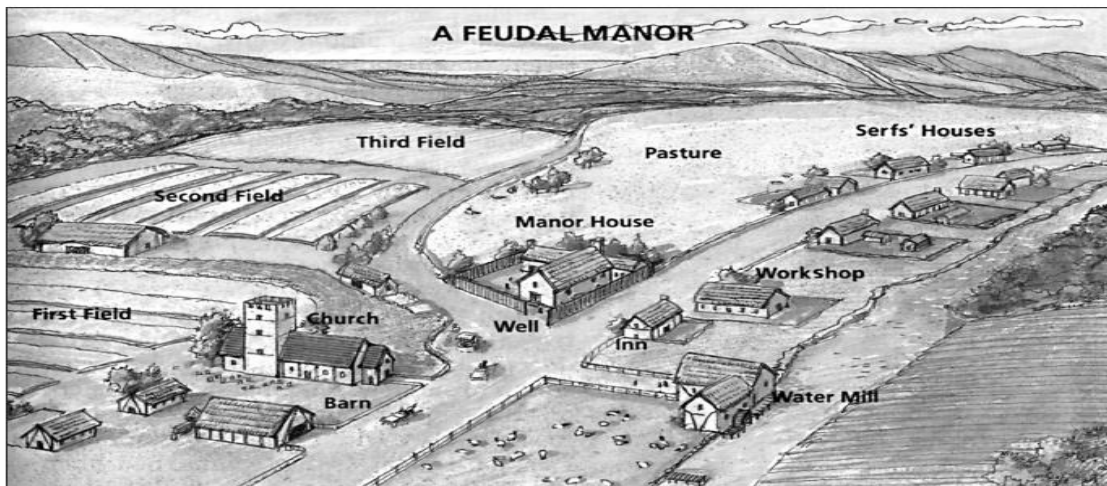
- (1) designed to promote political and economic equality
- (2) controlled by a powerful middle class
- (3) intended to provide opportunities for social mobility
- (4) supported by the labor of the peasants

8. Which document limited the power of the English monarchy during the Middle Ages?

- (1) Magna Carta
- (2) Twelve Tables
- (3) Justinian Code
- (4) Rig Veda

9. The Magna Carta can be described as a

- (1) journal about English feudal society
- (2) list of feudal rights that limited the power of the English monarchy
- (3) census of all tax-paying nobility in feudal England
- (4) statement of grievances of the middle class in England



Source: Michael B. Petrovich et al., *People in Time and Place: World Cultures*, Silver, Burdett & Ginn, 1991

10. Most economic activities on this feudal manor were related to

- (1) guilds
- (2) industry
- (3) banking
- (4) agriculture