

Annual Examinations for Middle Schools 2024

YEAR 8	HISTORY	TIME: 1 hour
---------------	----------------	---------------------

Name: _____ Class: _____

1. Underline the correct meaning to these historical terms.

1.1 Feudalism

- a. A system of administration used in medieval Europe.
- b. A defence system used in medieval castles.
- c. The discovery of new sea trade routes.

1.2 Gothic

- a. The leader of the army that defended Malta.
- b. A style of architecture used in several cathedrals in Europe.
- c. A boat that could endure the high waves of the Atlantic Ocean.

1.3 Plague

- a. A tax on products bought from Sicily.
- b. A type of spice that was imported in Europe from the East.
- c. An illness that spread across Europe in the Middle Ages and left a devastation.

1.4 Corsairing

- a. Piracy or theft on the seas with a licence.
- b. Slaves captured by pirates.
- c. The laws issued by the king.

1.5 Fresco

- a. A style of architecture used in the building of chapels.
- b. A painting technique on fresh lime plaster.
- c. Statues which were placed around medieval cathedrals.

1.6 Collachio

- a. War machinery used to destroy city walls.
- b. The main hall of a medieval castle.
- c. An area inside a city reserved for the Knights of St John.

(Total: 6 marks)

2. Consequences of events that took place in the Middle Ages.

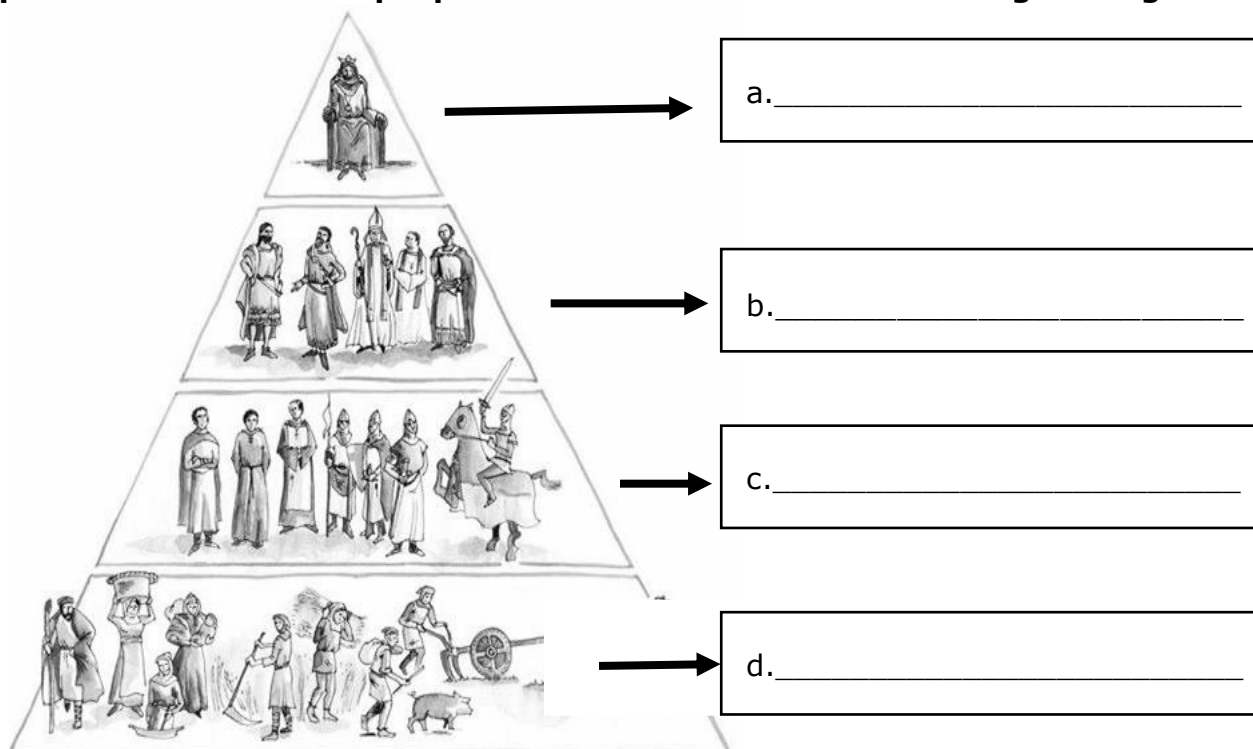
Place the letter of each event next to its matching consequence.

	Historical Event		Consequence
A	The spread of the plague across Europe.		The Gozitans and the Maltese rose and rebelled.
B	The invention of cannons and the use of gun powder in warfare.		Some coastal villages in Malta were abandoned.
C	Malta was often raided by pirates.		The Knights of St John built ships to continue fighting against the Turks.
D	The collection of taxes and poverty in Malta in Monroi's time.		Medieval castles lost their power and importance.
E	Cyprus and Rhodes are islands.		The population of Europe decreased drastically.

(Total: 5 marks)

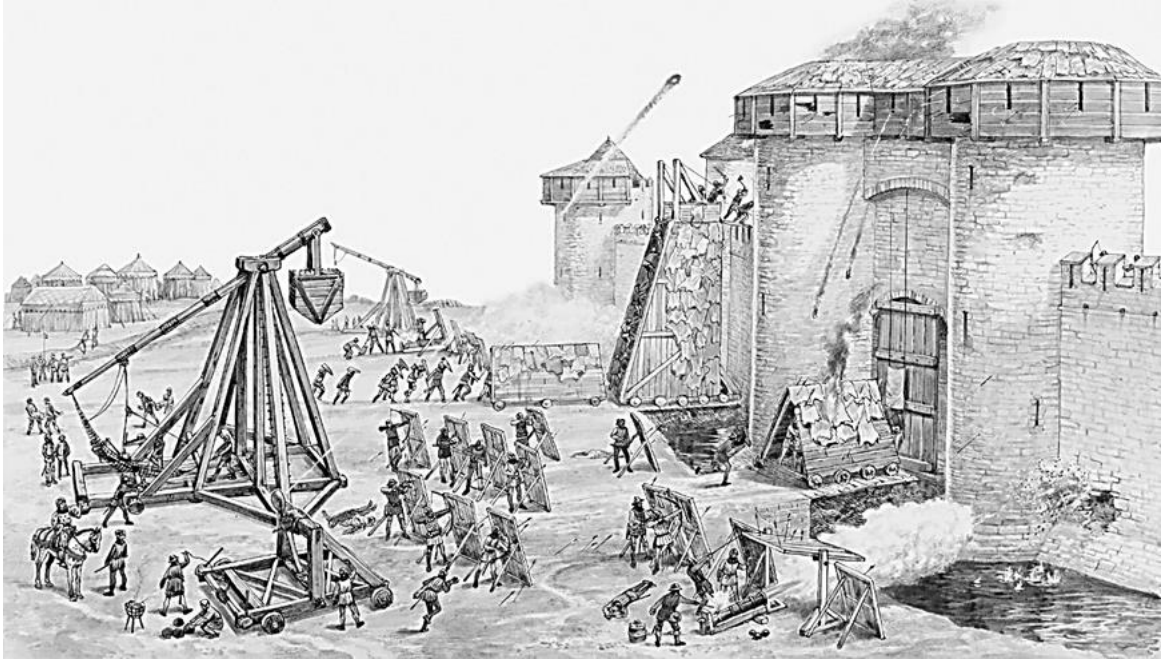
3. Fill in the feudal pyramid by using words from below.

peasants and common people nobles and barons the king knights



(Total: 4 marks)

4. Use this picture of a medieval castle during a siege to complete the exercise.



4.1 Name **one** type of castle which was built in the Middle Ages.

_____ (2)

4.2 Give **one** different reason why medieval castles were important to each of the following people:

a. nobles.

_____ (3)

b. peasants and their families.

_____ (3)

4.3 Describe the place you would have chosen to build a castle with a good defence if you were a king or a noble person in the Middle Ages.

_____ (2)

4.4 Name **two** defensive elements of the castle in the picture.

_____ (2)

4.5 Write a sentence to explain how the enemy is attacking the castle in the picture.

_____ (3)

(Total: 15 marks)

5. Read the following source about the Black Death and then answer the questions.

In the year 1348, in the city of Florence, appeared a deadly illness. Whether as a result of the position of the planets or sent by God as a punishment for our sins, the plague has spread. It originated some years earlier in the East and has left many dead in several places until it spread in the West.



Source B. Burial of plague victims

Source A. Adapted from the writing of G. Boccaccio 1313-1375

5.1 In which century did the Black Death spread through Europe?

11th century 14th century 15th century 21st century (2)

5.2 Where did the Black Death originate from before it spread to Europe?

_____ (2)

5.3 Name **one** symptom of the plague on humans who got infected.

_____ (2)

5.4.1 From Source A, give **one** reason that people at that time thought caused the plague.

_____ (2)

5.4.2 Underline the **true** cause that helped the Black Death to spread across many countries.

bad air commerce and travelling poison punishment from God (2)

5.5 Write a sentence about your work if you were:

5.5.1 the one burying the plague victims.

_____ (3)

5.5.2 a doctor during the plague.

_____ (3)

(Total: 16 marks)

6. Read the following source and answer the questions about Medieval Malta.

The Viceroys note that the Maltese Islands have been invaded several times by Tunisian forces who brought destruction in the countryside, destroying trees and vines, killing animals and devastating everything in sight. The enemy even reached the walls of the city. Although it was only thanks to the firm resistance of the Maltese that the Islands were not taken, there appears to have been a lack of agreement inside the city. This poses a serious danger to the safety and defence of the island in case of another attack. As a result, the Viceroys are sending the Knight Berengarius Bicigna with absolute power over all others in authority, including the Hakem, the castellan, the jurats and judges until further orders from the King.

Source C. Issued from Palermo, February 1430

- 6.1 Who ruled over Malta when this source was written? Underline the correct answer.
the Normans the Hohenstaufen the Angevines the Aragonese (2)
- 6.2 Where did the enemy who attacked Malta come from and what religion did it have?
_____ (2)
- 6.3 What did the Maltese organise to spot the enemy approaching Malta?
_____ (2)
- 6.4.1 From what you read, where was the best place for the Maltese people to go to when there was a large attack from the enemy?
_____ (2)
- 6.4.2 Explain why this was the best place to seek shelter.

_____ (3)
- 6.5 Explain why the Sicilian Viceroys felt the need to send the Knight Berengarius Bicigna to Malta although the Maltese had resisted the attack of 1429.

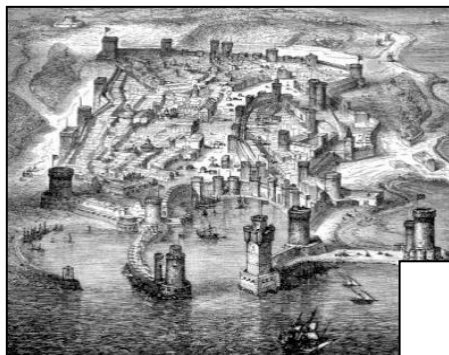
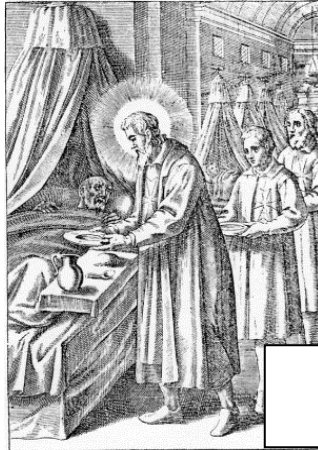
_____ (3)
- 6.6 Why do you think that the Castellano, the Hakem and the other officials in charge of the administration of Malta were not pleased with the arrival of the Knight?

_____ (2)
- 6.7 Which city or castle was administered by:
a. the Castellano: _____ (2)
b. the Hakem: _____ (2)

(Total: 20 marks)

7. Write the letter of each phrase in the square of the matching source about the Order of St John.

- A. The Grand Master together with his Council.
- B. Grand Master L'Isle Adam taking possession of Mdina.
- C. The Order of St John taking care of the poor and the sick.
- D. With the fall of Acre, the Order had to leave from the Holy Land.
- E. To continue fighting against the Turks the Order started using ships.
- F. In the Collachio of Rhodes you could find the most important buildings of the Order.



(Total: 12 marks)

8. These are the bases or places from where the Order of St John had its administration.

A. Malta B. Cyprus C. Rhodes D. the Holy Land

8.1 Write the letter of each base in the correct place on the map. (4)



8.2 Write the bases in chronological order starting from the oldest one where the Order had started. (8)

- i. _____
- ii. _____
- iii. _____
- iv. _____

(Total: 12 marks)

9. Choose ONE of the following themes and write a paragraph about it.

9.1 Write about two cities in the Maltese Islands in Medieval Times.

OR

9.2 Some medieval villages in Malte were abandoned and disappeared along the years. Write about the reasons why this happened.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

End of paper

(Total: 10 marks)