California Standards

History–Social Science
7.6 Students analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the civilizations of Medieval Europe.

Analysis Skills
CS 3 Identify physical and cultural features.
HI 2 Understand and distinguish cause and effect.

English–Language Arts
Writing 7.1 Students write clear, coherent, and focused essays.
Reading 7.2.3 Analyze text that uses the cause-and-effect organizational pattern.

Focus on Writing

A Historical Article Your friend is the editor of a magazine for young children. He wants you to write an article on the most important people in Europe in the Middle Ages. As you read, collect information to help you write this article.

CHAPTER EVENTS

1066 The Battle of Hastings is fought.

WORLD EVENTS

1055 The Seljuk Turks take control of Baghdad.
1096-1291  
Crusaders battle for control of the Holy Land.

1192  
The first shogun takes power in Japan.

1347-1351  
The Black Death kills about 25 million people in Europe.

1492  
The Spanish drive the Jews out of Spain.

1492  
Christopher Columbus lands in the Americas.

What You Will Learn...

In this chapter, you will learn about life in Europe during the later Middle Ages. Christianity was a major influence on people's lives during these years. This photo shows the monastery at Mont St. Michel in France.
Focus on Themes  The later Middle Ages in Europe were a time of change. As the Christian church grew stronger, popes challenged kings for power, and people who disagreed with Christian teachings were punished. Beautiful churches and religious art were created, while soldiers set out to fight wars over religious issues. As you can see, religion was a major force in people's lives. It was one of the most important factors that shaped Europe's society and culture during this period.

Causes and Effects in History

Focus on Reading  No event happens for no reason. To really understand past events, you should try to figure out what made them occur.

1. Many people in Italy looked to the pope as their leader. As a result, some popes began to live like royalty. They became rich and built huge palaces. At the same time, they came into conflict with Europe's other political leaders, kings. (p. 261)

   Cause  People look to popes as leaders.
   Effect  Popes live like royalty.
   Effect  Conflict with kings

2. As popes worked to increase their power, they often came into conflict with kings. For example, kings thought they should be able to select bishops in their countries. Popes, on the other hand, argued that only they could choose religious officials. (p. 263)

   Cause  Kings want to choose bishops.
   Cause  Popes will not let them.
   Effect  Conflict between popes and kings

Identifying Causes and Effects  A cause is something that makes another thing happen. An effect is the result of something else that happened. Most historical events have a number of causes as well as a number of effects.

TIP  Sometimes writers use words that signal a cause or an effect:

Cause—reason, basis, because, motivated, as
Effect—therefore, as a result, for that reason, so
The following passage from this chapter describes a series of actions taken by Pope Gregory VII and Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV. Read closely to see the causes and results of these actions.

Kings and Popes Clash

In 1073 a new pope came to power in Rome. His name was Pope Gregory VII. Trouble arose when Gregory disapproved of a bishop chosen by the Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV. Angry because the pope questioned his authority, Henry convinced Germany's bishops that they should remove Gregory as pope. In response, the pope excommunicated Henry. He called on the empire's nobles to overthrow Henry.

Desperate to stay in power, Henry went to Italy to ask the pope for forgiveness. Gregory refused to see him. For three days Henry stood barefoot in the snow outside the castle where Pope Gregory was staying. Eventually, Gregory accepted Henry's apology.

After you read the passage, draw a chart like the one below in your notebook, filling in the missing causes and effects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Causes</th>
<th>Effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Henry wants to stay in power.</td>
<td>4. Henry stands barefoot in snow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>5.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As you read Chapter 10, look for words that signal causes or effects. Make a chart like the one above to keep track of how causes and effects are related.

Key Terms and People

Chapter 10
Section 1
excommunicate (p. 261)
Pope Gregory VII (p. 263)
Emperor Henry IV (p. 263)

Section 2
Crusades (p. 264)
Holy Land (p. 264)
Pope Urban II (p. 264)
King Richard I (p. 266)
Saladin (p. 266)

Section 3
clergy (p. 269)
religious order (p. 272)
Francis of Assisi (p. 272)
frriers (p. 272)
Thomas Aquinas (p. 273)
natural law (p. 274)

Section 4
Magna Carta (p. 276)
Parliament (p. 277)
Hundred Years' War (p. 278)
Joan of Arc (p. 278)
Black Death (p. 279)

Section 5
heresy (p. 282)
Reconquista (p. 283)
King Ferdinand (p. 284)
Queen Isabella (p. 284)
Spanish Inquisition (p. 284)

Academic Vocabulary
Success in school is related to knowing academic vocabulary—the words that are frequently used in school assignments and discussions. In this chapter, you will learn the following academic words:

- authority (p. 262)
- policy (p. 284)
Popes and Kings

If YOU were there...

You are 13 years old, the youngest child of the king of France. One day your father announces that he wants to make an alliance with a powerful noble family. To seal the alliance, he has arranged for you to marry one of his new ally's children. Your father wants you to be happy and asks what you think of the idea. You know the alliance will make your father's rule more secure, but it means leaving home to marry a stranger.

What will you say to your father?

Building Background

In the Middle Ages, kings were some of the most powerful men in Europe. Many kings, like the one described above, looked for ways to increase their power. But in their search for power, these kings had to deal with other powerful leaders, including popes. These other leaders had their own plans and goals.

Popes and Kings Rule Europe

In the early Middle Ages, great nobles and their knights held a great deal of power. As time passed, though, this power began to shift. More and more, power came into the hands of two types of leaders, popes and kings. Popes had great spiritual power, and kings had political power. Together, popes and kings controlled most of European society.

The Power of the Popes

In the Middle Ages, the pope was the head of the Christian Church in Western Europe. Since nearly everyone in the Middle Ages belonged to this church, the pope had great power. People saw the pope as God's representative on Earth. They looked to him for guidance about how to live and pray.

Because the pope was seen as God's representative, it was his duty to decide what the church would teach. From time to time, a pope would write a letter called a bull to explain a religious teaching or outline a church policy. In addition, the pope decided when someone was acting against the church.
If the pope felt someone was working against the church, he could punish the person in many ways. For serious offenses, the pope or other bishops could choose to **excommunicate**, or cast out from the church, the offender. This punishment was deeply feared because Christians believed that a person who died while excommunicated would not get into heaven.

In addition to spiritual power, many popes had great political power. After the Roman Empire collapsed, many people in Italy looked to the pope as their leader. As a result, some popes began to live like royalty. They became rich and built huge palaces. At the same time, they came into conflict with Europe’s other political leaders, kings.

### The Power of Kings

As you can see on the map below, Europe in 1000 was divided into many small states. Most of these states were ruled by kings, some of whom had little real power. In a few places, though, kings had begun to take firm control of their countries. Look at the map to find England, France, and the Holy Roman Empire. At this time, Europe’s most powerful kings ruled those three countries.

In England and France, kings inherited their thrones from their fathers. At times, nobles rebelled against the kings, but the kings usually reestablished order fairly quickly. They maintained this order through alliances as well as warfare.

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**Europe, 1000**

- **Christian monarchs** ruled many European kingdoms, such as France and England.
- **Smaller German states** made up the Holy Roman Empire. The emperors were seen as protectors of the pope.

**Geography Skills**

1. **Location**  In what empire was Rome located at this time?
2. **Region** What kingdoms surrounded the Holy Roman Empire?
Primary Source

POINTS OF VIEW
Views of Power

Pope Gregory VII thought popes should have the power to choose bishops. He believed popes—not kings—got their power from God.

"Who does not know that kings and princes derive their origin from men ignorant of God who raised themselves above their fellows by . . . every kind of crime? . . . Does anyone doubt that the priests of Christ are to be considered as fathers and masters of kings and princes and of all believers?"

—Pope Gregory VII,
from a letter to the Bishop of Metz, 1081, in Readings in Medieval History, ed. by Patrick Geary

Emperor Henry IV thought popes had too much power. He argued that kings should choose bishops because God had chosen the king.

"Our Lord, Jesus Christ, has called us to kingship, but has not called you to the priesthood . . . You who have not been called by God have taught that our bishops who have been called by God are to be [rejected] . . ."

—Emperor Henry IV,
from a letter to Pope Gregory VII, 1076, in Readings in Medieval History, ed. by Patrick Geary

The Holy Roman Empire

In the Holy Roman Empire, however, the situation was different. This empire grew out of what had been Charlemagne’s empire. As you read earlier, Charlemagne built his empire in the 700s with the pope’s approval.

In the mid-900s, another emperor took the throne with the approval of the pope. Because the empire was approved by the pope and people saw it as a rebirth of the Roman Empire, it became known as the Holy Roman Empire.

Holy Roman emperors didn’t inherit their crowns. Instead, they were elected by the empire’s nobles. Sometimes, these elections led to fights between nobles and the emperor. In the worst of these squabbles, emperors had to call on the pope for help.

Academic Vocabulary
authority power, right to rule

Popes Fight for Power

Although the people of western Europe considered the pope the head of the church, people in eastern Europe disagreed. There, bishops controlled religious matters with little or no guidance from the pope. Beginning in the mid-1000s, however, a series of clever and able popes sought to increase their authority over eastern bishops. They believed all religious officials should answer to the pope.

Among those who believed this was Pope Leo IX, who became pope in 1049. He argued that because the first pope, Saint Peter, had been the leader of the whole Christian Church, later popes should be as well. Despite Leo’s arguments, many church leaders in eastern Europe, most notably the Byzantine Patriarch Michael Cerularius, refused to recognize the supremacy of the pope. The pope responded by excommunicating him in 1054. This is known as the Great Schism. It is reflected in the cultural and political divisions between the Orthodox and Catholic parts of Europe today.
Leo's decision created a permanent split within the church. Christians who agreed with the bishop of Constantinople formed the Orthodox Church. Those who supported Leo's authority became known as Roman Catholics. With their support, the pope became head of the Roman Catholic Church and one of the most powerful figures in western Europe.

**Kings and Popes Clash**

As popes worked to increase their power, they often came into conflict with kings. For example, kings thought they should be able to select bishops in their countries. Popes, on the other hand, argued that only they could choose religious officials.

In 1073 a new pope came to power in Rome. His name was Pope Gregory VII. Trouble arose when Gregory disapproved of a bishop chosen by the Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV. Angry because the pope questioned his authority, Henry convinced Germany's bishops that they should remove Gregory as pope. In response, the pope excommunicated Henry. He called on the empire's nobles to overthrow Henry.

Desperate to stay in power, Henry went to Italy to ask the pope for forgiveness. Gregory refused to see him. For three days Henry stood barefoot in the snow outside the castle where Pope Gregory was staying. Eventually, Gregory accepted Henry's apology and allowed the emperor back into the church. Gregory had proven himself more powerful than the emperor, at least for that moment.

The fight over the right to choose bishops continued even after Henry and Gregory died. In 1122 a new pope and emperor reached a compromise. They decided that church officials would choose all bishops and abbots. The bishops and abbots, however, would still have to obey the emperor. This compromise did not end all conflict. Kings and popes continued to fight for power throughout the Middle Ages, changing lives all over Europe.

**Summary and Preview**

In this section you read about the powers of popes and kings. In many cases, these powers led to conflict between the two. In the next section, though, you will read about popes and kings working together against a common enemy.
The Crusades

If YOU were there...
You belong to a noble family that has produced many great knights. One day your uncle, the head of the family, tells you that the pope has called on warriors to defend holy places in a faraway land. Your uncle is too old to fight, so it falls on you to answer the pope's call to war. The journey will be long and dangerous. Still, you will see new places and possibly win glory for your family.

How do you feel about joining this war?

BUILDING BACKGROUND In the early Middle Ages few people traveled far from home. They spent most of their lives in a single village or farm. As time passed, however, Europeans learned of other people and places. Their contacts with some of these people were peaceful. With others, though, the contact was not peaceful. Wars broke out. The most famous of these wars were the Crusades.

Crusaders Invade the Holy Land
The Crusades were a long series of wars between Christians and Muslims in Southwest Asia. They were fought over control of Palestine, a region of Southwest Asia. Europeans called Palestine the Holy Land because it was the region where Jesus had lived, preached, and died.

Causes of the Crusades
For many years, Palestine had been in the hands of Muslims. In general, the Muslims did not bother Christians who visited the region. In the late 1000s, though, a group of Turkish Muslims entered the area and captured the city of Jerusalem. Pilgrims returning to Europe said that these Turks had attacked them in the Holy Land, which was no longer safe for Christians.

Before long, the Turks began to raid the Byzantine Empire. The Byzantine emperor, fearing an attack on Constantinople, asked Pope Urban II of the Roman Catholic Church for help. Although the Byzantines were Orthodox Christians and not Catholic, the pope agreed to the request.
The Call to Arms

Pope Urban called on Christians from all over Europe to retake the Holy Land from the Muslim Turks. He challenged Europe's kings and nobles to quit fighting among themselves and fight together against the Turks. In response, people joined the pope's army by the thousands.

Crusaders from all over Europe flocked to France to prepare for their long journey. They sewed crosses onto their clothing to show that they were fighting for God. In fact, the word *crusade* comes from the Latin for "marked with a cross." As they marched off to war, the Crusaders yelled their rallying cry, "God wills it!"

Why would people leave home to fight in a distant land? Some just hoped to save their souls or to do what they thought God wanted. They thought that God would look favorably on them for fighting his enemies, as one French abbot noted:

> "What a glory to return in victory from such a battle! ... if they are blessed who die in the Lord, how much more are they who die for the Lord!"
> —Saint Bernard of Clairvaux, from *In Praise of the New Knighthood*

Other Crusaders wanted land and treasure. Still others were looking for something to do. Adventure called to them.

The First Crusade

About 5,000 Crusaders left Europe for the Holy Land in 1096. Some of the first ones to set out were peasants, not soldiers. On their way to the Holy Land, these peasant Crusaders attacked Jews in Germany. They blamed the Jews for Jesus's death.
Before they even reached the Holy Land, Turkish troops killed most of these untrained, poorly equipped peasants. The nobles and knights fared better. When they reached Jerusalem in 1099, they found the Muslim army disorganized and unready to fight. After about a month of fighting, the Crusaders took Jerusalem.

After the Europeans took Jerusalem, they set up four small kingdoms in the Holy Land. The rulers of these kingdoms created lord and vassal systems like they had known at home. They also began to trade with people back in Europe.

**READING CHECK** Summarizing What did the First Crusade accomplish?

### Later Crusades Fail

The kingdoms the Christians created in the Holy Land didn’t last, though. Within 50 years the Muslims had started taking land back from the Christians. In response, the Europeans launched more Crusades.

### The Second and Third Crusades

French and German kings set off in 1147 to retake land from the Muslims. This Second Crusade was a terrible failure. Poor planning and heavy losses on the journey to the Holy Land led to the Christians’ total defeat. Ashamed, the Crusaders returned to Europe in less than a year.


King Richard’s main opponent in the Third Crusade was Saladin, the leader of the Muslim forces. Saladin was a brilliant leader. Even Crusaders respected his kindness toward fallen enemies. In turn, the Muslims admired Richard’s bravery.

For months, Richard and Saladin fought and negotiated. Richard captured a few towns and won protection for Christian pilgrims. In the end, however, he returned home with Jerusalem still in Muslim hands.

### The Fourth Crusade

In 1201 French knights arrived in Venice ready to sail to the Holy Land to begin a Fourth Crusade. However, the knights didn’t have money to pay for the voyage. For payment the Venetians asked the knights to conquer Zara, a rival trade city. The knights agreed. Later they also attacked Constantinople and carried off many treasures. The city that had been threatened by Muslims before the Crusades had been sacked by Christians!

### The End of the Crusades

Other Crusades followed, but none were successful. By 1291 the Muslim armies had taken back all of the Holy Land, and the
The Crusades had ended. Why did the Crusades fail? There were many reasons.

- The Crusaders had to travel huge distances just to reach the war. Many died along the way.
- Crusaders weren’t prepared to fight in Palestine’s desert climate.
- The Christians were outnumbered by their well-led and organized Muslim foes.
- Christian leaders fought among themselves and planned poorly.

Whatever the reasons for their failure, the Crusades ended just as they had begun so many years before, with the Holy Land under Muslim control.

**BIography**

Saladin

1137–1193

Saladin is often called one of the greatest generals of the Middle Ages. The Muslim leader successfully held Jerusalem against Richard I in the Third Crusade. Saladin’s people considered their leader a wise ruler. Crusaders respected his sometimes kind treatment of fallen enemies. Many Christians saw him as a model of knightly chivalry.

**Reading Check**

Analyzing How did geography limit the success of the Crusades?
Crusades Change Europe

Although the Crusades failed, they changed Europe forever. Trade between Europe and Asia grew. Europeans who went to the Holy Land learned about products such as apricots, rice, and cotton cloth. Crusaders also brought ideas of Muslim thinkers to Europe.

Politics in Europe also changed. Some kings increased their power because many nobles and knights had died in the Holy Land. These kings seized lands that were left without clear owners. During the later Crusades, kings also gained influence at the popes' expense. The popes had wanted the church to be in charge of all the Crusades. Instead, rulers and nobles took control.

The Crusades had lasting effects on relations among peoples as well. Because some Crusaders had attacked Jews, many Jews distrusted Christians. In addition, tension between the Byzantines and western Christians increased, especially after Crusaders attacked Constantinople.

The greatest changes occurred with Christian and Muslim relationships. Each group learned about the other's religion and culture. Sometimes this led to mutual respect. In general, though, the Crusaders saw Muslims as unbelievers who threatened innocent Christians. Most Muslims viewed the Crusaders as vicious invaders. Some historians think that the distrust that began during the Crusades still affects Christian and Muslim relationships today.

Summary and Preview

In this section you learned how religious beliefs led to a series of wars. In the next section you will learn about the role of religion in most people's daily lives in the Middle Ages.

Section 2 Assessment

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People  7.6.6

1. **Recall** What did Pope Urban II ask Christians to do?
   **Elaborate** Why do you think so many people were willing to go on a Crusade?

2. **Identify** In which Crusade did Saladin and King Richard I fight?
   **Rank** Which Crusade do you think was the least successful? Why?

3. **Identify** What new products were introduced to Europe after the Crusades?
   **Draw Conclusions** Why did the Crusades change relationships between Christians and other groups?

Critical Thinking

4. **Identifying Cause and Effect** Draw a diagram like the one here. Use it to identify three causes and three effects of the Crusades.

   - **Causes**
     1. Turks take control of the Holy Land in 1071.
     2. Turks threaten Constantinople in the 1090s.
   - **Effects**
     1. Trade between Europe and Asia increases.
     2. Kings become more powerful.
     3. Tension between Christians, Jews, and Muslims grows.

5. **Thinking about the Crusades** Look back through what you've just read and make a list of people who were important in the Crusades. What made them important?
Christianity and Medieval Society

If YOU were there...

You are a stone carver, apprenticed to a master builder. The bishop has hired your master to design a huge new church. He wants the church to inspire and impress worshippers with the glory of God. Your master has entrusted you with the decoration of the outside of the church. You are excited by the challenge.

What kind of art will you create for the church?

BUILDING BACKGROUND Thousands of churches were built across Europe in the Middle Ages. People took great pride in their churches because religion was very important to them. In fact, Christianity was a key factor in shaping medieval society.

The Church Shapes Society and Politics

Nearly everyone who lived in Europe during the Middle Ages was Christian. In fact, Christianity was central to every part of life. Church officials, called clergy, and their teachings were very influential in European culture and politics.

The towers of old Christian churches still rise above many European towns and cities. Christianity became a strong influence on European life in the Middle Ages.

What You Will Learn...

Main Ideas
1. The Christian Church shaped society and politics in medieval Europe.
2. Orders of monks and friars did not like the church's political nature.
3. Church leaders helped build the first universities in Europe.
4. The church influenced the arts in medieval Europe.

The Big Idea
The Christian Church was central to life in the Middle Ages.

Key Terms and People
clergy, p. 269
religious order, p. 272
Francis of Assisi, p. 272
friars, p. 272
Thomas Aquinas, p. 273
natural law, p. 274

HSS 7.6.8 Understand the importance of the Catholic church as a political, intellectual, and aesthetic institution (e.g., founding of universities, political and spiritual roles of the clergy, creation of monastic and mendicant religious orders, preservation of the Latin language and religious texts, St. Thomas Aquinas's synthesis of classical philosophy with Christian theology, and the concept of "natural law").
The Church and Society

In the Middle Ages, life revolved around the local church. Markets, festivals, and religious ceremonies all took place there. For some people, however, the local church was not enough. They wanted to see important religious sites—the places where Jesus lived, where holy men and women died, and where miracles happened. The church encouraged these people to go on pilgrimages, journeys to religious locations. Among the most popular destinations were Jerusalem, Rome, and Compostela, in northwestern Spain. Each of these cities had churches that Christians wanted to visit.

Another popular pilgrimage destination was Canterbury, near London in England. Hundreds of visitors went to the cathedral in Canterbury each year. One such visit is the basis for one of the greatest books of the Middle Ages, *The Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer (CHAW-suhr). Chaucer’s book tells of a group of pilgrims who feel drawn, like many people, to Canterbury:

“When in April the sweet showers fall
And pierce the drought of March to the root …
Then people long to go on pilgrimages
And palmers long to seek the stranger strands
Of far-off saints, hallowed in sundry lands
And specially, from every shire’s end
Of England, down to Canterbury they wend.”

—Geoffrey Chaucer, from *The Canterbury Tales*
The Church and Politics
The church also gained political power during the Middle Ages. Many people left land to the church when they died. In fact, the church was one of the largest landholders in Europe. Eventually, the church divided this land into fiefs. In this way, it became a feudal lord.

Of all the clergy, bishops and abbots were most involved in political matters. They often advised local rulers. Some clergy got so involved with politics that they spent little time dealing with religious affairs.

**READING CHECK** Analyzing In what ways were clergy members important political figures?

Monks and Friars
Some people were unhappy with the political nature of the church. They thought the clergy should focus only on spiritual matters. These people feared that the church had become obsessed with wealth and power.

The Monks of Cluny
Among those unhappy with the church were a group of French monks. In the early 900s they started a monastery in the town of Cluny (KLOO-nee). The monks of Cluny followed a strict schedule of prayers and religious services. They paid little attention to the world, concerning themselves only with religious matters.
The changes at Cluny led to the creation of a religious order, the Cluniac monks. A religious order is a group of people who dedicate their lives to religion and follow common rules. Across Europe, people saw Cluny as an example of how monks should live. They built new monasteries and tried to live like the Cluniacs.

Other New Orders
By the 1100s, though, some monks thought that even Cluny's rules weren't strict enough. They created new orders with even stricter rules. Some took vows of silence and stopped speaking to each other. Others lived in tiny rooms and left them only to go to church services.

Men were not the only ones to create and join religious orders. Women were allowed to join these kinds of orders as well. Communities of nuns called convents appeared across Europe. Like monks, these nuns lived according to a strict set of rules. The nuns of each convent prayed and worked together under the watchful eyes of an abbess, the convent's leader.

Although monks and nuns lived apart from other people, they did a great deal for society. For example, they collected and stored texts that explained Christian teachings. Monks spent hours copying these documents, and they sent copies to monasteries across Europe.

The Friars
Not everyone who joined a religious order wanted to live apart from society. Some wanted to live in cities and spread Christian teachings. As a result, two new religious orders were begun in the early 1200s.

These orders were the Dominicans and the Franciscans, named for their founders, Dominic de Guzmán and Francis of Assisi. Because they didn't live in monasteries, members of these orders were not monks. They were friars, people who belonged to religious orders but lived and worked among the general public.

Friars lived simply, wearing plain robes and no shoes. Like monks, they owned no property. They roamed about, preaching and begging for food. For that reason, friars were also called mendicants, from a Latin word for beggars.

The main goal of the friars was to teach people how to live good Christian lives. They taught people about generosity and kindness. A prayer credited to Francis illustrates what the friars hoped to do:

"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy."

—Francis of Assisi, from The Prayer of Saint Francis

Making Generalizations How do you think Francis's generosity and compassion might inspire Christians to follow the church's teachings?

Biography

Saint Francis of Assisi
1182?–1226
Born in Assisi, Italy, Francis was the son of a wealthy merchant. As a young man, however, Francis gave all his money and possessions away and left his father's house. He lived a simple life, preaching and tending to people who were poor or ill. Francis considered everyone his brother or sister, including animals. He encouraged people to take care of animals just as they would take care of other people. Within a few years other people had begun to copy his lifestyle. In 1210 they became the first members of the Franciscan Order.

Reading Check Summarizing Why did people create new religious orders?
School Days
Did you know that many customs that schools and universities follow today began in the Middle Ages? For example, medieval teachers taught groups of students instead of individuals. Classes ran according to a fixed schedule, and students had to take tests. At night, students went to their rooms to study and complete assignments. Many students participated in sports such as races and ball games after classes. At graduation, students dressed up in caps and gowns. All of these customs are still common today.

Medieval universities were not exactly the same as universities are now, however. Medieval students entered the university at age 14, and only boys could attend.

Why do you think some customs followed by universities in the Middle Ages have lasted until today?

Universities Are Built
While some people were drawing away from the world in monasteries and convents, others were looking for ways to learn more about it. In time, their search for knowledge led to the creation of Europe's first universities.

Some of the earliest universities were created by the church. The church's goal was to teach people about religion. Other universities were created by groups of students who went searching for teachers who could tell them about the world.

Most teachers in these universities were members of the clergy. Besides religion, schools taught law, medicine, astronomy, and other courses. All classes were taught in Latin. Although relatively few people in Europe spoke Latin, it was the language of scholars and the church.

As people began to study new subjects, some of them developed new ideas about the world. In particular, they wondered how human reason and Christian faith were related. In the past, people had believed that some things could be proven with reason, but other things had to be taken on faith. Some people in universities, though, began to wonder if the two ideas could work together.

One such person was the Dominican philosopher Thomas Aquinas (uh-KWY-uh-nuhs). Thomas was a teacher at the University of Paris. He argued that rational thought could be used to support Christian beliefs. For example, he wrote an argument to prove the existence of God.
Thomas also believed that God had created a law that governed how the world operated. He called it natural law. If people could study and learn more about this law, he argued, they could learn to live the way God wanted.

**READING CHECK** Generalizing How did universities help create new ideas?

### The Church and the Arts

In addition to politics and education, the church was also a strong influence on art and architecture. Throughout the Middle Ages, religious feeling inspired artists and architects to create beautiful works of art.

#### Religious Architecture

Many of Europe's churches were incredible works of art. The grandest of these churches were cathedrals, large churches in which bishops led religious services. Beginning in the 1100s, Europeans built their cathedrals using a dramatic new style called Gothic architecture.

Gothic cathedrals were not only places to pray, but also symbols of people's faith. As a result, they were towering works of great majesty and glory.

What made these Gothic churches so unusual? For one thing, they were much taller than older churches. The walls often rose up hundreds of feet, and the ceilings seemed to reach to heaven. Huge windows of stained glass let sunlight pour in, filling the churches with dazzling colors. Many of these amazing churches still exist. People continue to worship in them and admire their beauty.

### Religious Art

Medieval churches were also filled with beautiful objects created to show respect for God. Ornate paintings and tapestries covered the walls and ceilings. Even the clothing priests wore during religious services was marvelous. Their robes were often highly decorated, sometimes with threads made out of gold.

Many of the books used during religious ceremonies were beautiful objects. Monks had copied these books carefully.

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**Gothic Architecture**

One of the most beautiful of all Gothic cathedrals is in Chartres (SHAHRT), near Paris, France. At 112 feet high it is about as tall as a 10-story building.
They also decorated them using bright colors to adorn the first letters and the borders of each page. Some monks added thin sheets of silver and gold to the pages. Because the pages seem to glow, we use the word illuminated to describe them.

**READING CHECK** Generalizing How were medieval art and religion related?

**SUMMARY AND PREVIEW** Besides its religious role, the church played important roles in politics, education, and the arts. The church changed as time passed. In the next section, you will learn about other changes that took place in Europe at the same time. These changes created new political systems around the continent.

**Section 3 Assessment**

**Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People**

1. **a. Recall** What are church officials called?
   **b. Explain** Why did people go on pilgrimages?

2. **a. Identify** What new monastery founded in France in the 900s served as an example to people around Europe?
   **b. Contrast** How were friars different from monks?

3. **Analyze** How did Thomas Aquinas think reason and faith could work together?

4. **a. Identify** What new style of religious architecture developed in Europe in the 1100s?
   **b. Elaborate** Why do you think so much of the art created in the Middle Ages was religious?

**Critical Thinking**

5. **Categorizing** Draw a chart like the one below. Use it to list the roles the church played in politics, education, and the arts in the Middle Ages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Politics</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>The Arts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**FOCUS ON WRITING**

6. **Taking Notes on Church Leaders** In this section, you’ve read about at least two people who became saints. Add them to your list and note why they’re important.
Political and Social Change

If YOU were there...

You are a baron, one of England's great nobles, living in northern Britain. Winter is approaching, and it looks like it will be very cold soon. To prepare for the winter, you send some of your servants to a forest on your land to gather firewood. When they return, though, they don't have much wood. The king has chopped down many of the trees in your forest to build a new castle. Dismayed, you send a messenger to ask the king to pay a fair price for the wood, but he refuses.

How can you get the king to respect your rights?

**Building Background** Beginning with William the Conqueror, the kings of England fought to increase their power. By the 1200s, the kings felt that they could do as they pleased, whether their nobles agreed with them or not. The kings' attitudes upset many nobles, especially when kings began to create new taxes or take the nobles' property. Some nobles began to look for ways to limit kings' powers and protect their own rights.

**Magna Carta Causes Change in England**

In 1215 a group of nobles decided to force the king to respect their rights. In the middle of a field called Runnymede near London, they made King John approve a document they had written. This document listing rights that the king could not ignore was called Magna Carta. Its name is a Latin phrase meaning "Great Charter."
Magna Carta

Magna Carta was one of the first documents to protect the rights of the people. Magna Carta was so influential that the British still consider it part of their constitution. Some of its ideas are also in the U.S. Constitution. Included in Magna Carta were 63 demands that English nobles made King John agree to follow. A few of these demands are listed here.

(16) No man shall be forced to perform more service for a knight’s ‘fee’ or other free holding of land, than is due from it.

(31) Neither we nor any royal official will take wood for our castle, or for any other purpose, without the consent [permission] of the owner.

(38) In future no official shall place a man on trial upon his own unsupported statement, without producing credible [believable] witnesses to the truth of it.

—Magna Carta, from a translation by the British Library

The Effects of Magna Carta

Magna Carta required the king to honor certain rights. Among these rights was habeas corpus (HAY-bee-uhs KOHR-puhs), a Latin phrase meaning “you have the body.” The right of habeas corpus meant that people could not be kept in jail without a reason. They had to be charged with a crime and convicted at a jury trial before they could be sent to prison. Before, kings could arrest people for no reason at all.

More importantly, Magna Carta required that everyone—even the king—had to obey the law. The idea that everyone must follow the law became one of the basic principles of English government.

Changes after Magna Carta

Magna Carta inspired the English to find more ways to limit the king’s power. A council of nobles was created to advise the king. In time, the council developed into Parliament (PAHR-luh-muhnt), the lawmaking body that governs England today. Over the years, membership in Parliament was opened to knights and town leaders. By the late Middle Ages, kings could do little without Parliament’s support.

The English continued to work to secure and protect their rights. To ensure that everyone was treated fairly, people demanded that judges be free of royal control. Many people believed judges chosen by the king would always side with him. Eventually, in the late 1600s, the king agreed to free the courts of his control. This creation of an independent judicial system was a key step in bringing democracy to England.

READING CHECK Summarizing How did Magna Carta and Parliament limit the king’s power?
Joan of Arc is still a national hero in France.

The Hundred Years’ War

Although Magna Carta changed England’s government, it had no effect outside of that country. Kings in other parts of Europe continued to rule as they always had. Eventually, however, these kings also had to face great political changes.

The Course of the War

One of the countries in which political change occurred was France. In 1328 the king of France died with no sons, and two men claimed his throne. One was French. The other was the king of England. In the end, the French man became king.

This did not sit well with the English king, and a few years later he invaded France. This invasion began a long conflict between England and France that came to be called the Hundred Years’ War.

At first the English armies did well, winning most of the battles. After nearly 100 years of fighting, however, a teenage peasant girl, Joan of Arc, rallied the French troops. Although the English eventually captured and killed Joan, it was too late. The French drove the English from their country in 1453.

Results of the War

The Hundred Years’ War changed the governments of both England and France. In England, Parliament’s power grew because the king needed Parliament’s approval to raise money to pay for the costly war. As Parliament gained more influence, the king lost power.

In France, on the other hand, the king’s power grew. During the war, the king had become popular with his nobles. Fighting the English had created a bond between them. As a result, the nobles supported the king after the war as well.
The Black Death

While the English and French fought the Hundred Years’ War, an even greater crisis arose. This crisis was the Black Death, a deadly plague that swept through Europe between 1347 and 1351.

The plague originally came from central and eastern Asia. Unknowingly, traders brought rats carrying the disease to Mediterranean ports in 1347. From there it quickly swept throughout much of Europe. Fleas that feasted on the blood of infected rats passed on the plague to people.

The Black Death was not caused by one disease but by several different forms of plague. One form called bubonic plague (byoo-BAH-nik PLAYG) could be identified by swellings called buboes that appeared on victims’ bodies. Another even deadlier form could spread through the air and kill people in less than a day.

The Black Death killed so many people that many were buried quickly without priests or ceremonies. In some villages nearly everyone died or fled as neighbors fell ill. In England alone, about 1,000 villages were abandoned.

The plague killed millions of people in Europe and millions more around the world. Some historians think Europe lost about a third of its population—perhaps 25 million people. This huge drop in population caused sweeping changes in Europe.

In most places, the manor system fell apart completely. There weren’t enough people left to work in the fields. Those peasants and serfs who had survived the plague found their skills in high demand. Suddenly, they could demand wages for their labor. Once they had money, many fled their manors completely, moving instead to Europe’s growing cities.

**READING CHECK** Identifying Cause and Effect

What effects did bubonic plague have in Europe?

**SUMMARY AND PREVIEW** Magna Carta, the Hundred Years’ War, and the Black Death changed European society. In the next section, you will learn about other changes in society, changes brought about by religious differences.

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**Section 4 Assessment**

**Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People**

1. **a. Identify** What document did English nobles hope would limit the king’s power?
   **b. Explain** How was the creation of Parliament a step toward the creation of democracy in England?

2. **a. Identify** Who rallied the French troops during the Hundred Years’ War?
   **b. Elaborate** The Hundred Years’ War caused much more damage in France than in England. Why do you think this was the case?

3. **a. Describe** What was the Black Death?
   **b. Explain** How did the Black Death contribute to the decline of the manor system?
   **c. Elaborate** Why do you think the Black Death was able to spread so quickly through Europe?

**Critical Thinking**

4. **Identifying Cause and Effect** Draw a scroll like the one shown here. Inside the scroll, list two ideas contained in Magna Carta. Next to the scroll, write two sentences about Magna Carta’s effects on England’s government.

5. **Rating Importance** After reading this section, you’ll probably want to add King John to your list. You should also start to think about which people were the most important. Rank the people on your list from most to least important.
"And they died by the hundreds," wrote one man who saw the horror, "both day and night." The Black Death had arrived. The Black Death was a series of deadly plagues that hit Europe between 1347 and 1351, killing millions. People didn't know what caused the plague. They also didn't know that geography played a key role in its spread—as people traveled to trade, they unwittingly carried the disease with them to new places.

The plague probably began in central and eastern Asia. These arrows show how it spread into and through Europe.

This ship has just arrived in Europe from the east with trade goods—and rats with fleas.

The fleas carry the plague and jump onto a man unloading the ship. Soon, he will get sick and die.
The plague is so terrifying that many people think it's the end of the world. They leave town for the country, spreading the Black Death even farther.

People dig mass graves to bury the dead. But often, so many victims are infected that there is no one left to bury them.

The garbage and dirty conditions in the town provide food and a home for the rats, allowing the disease to spread even more.

So many people die so quickly that special carts are sent through the streets to gather the bodies.

**Geography Skills: Interpreting Maps**

1. How did the Black Death reach Europe from Asia?
2. What helped spread the plague within Europe?
The church reacted to challengers by punishing people who opposed its teachings. Christians fought Moors in Spain and Portugal in an effort to drive all Muslims out of Europe. Jews faced discrimination across Europe in the Middle Ages.

The Big Idea
In the Middle Ages, the Christian Church dealt harshly with people who did not respect its authority.

Key Terms and People
heresy, p. 282
Reconquista, p. 283
King Ferdinand, p. 284
Queen Isabella, p. 284
Spanish Inquisition, p. 284

If YOU were there...
You are a student at a university in Córdoba, Spain. Your fellow students include Christians, Muslims, and Jews. But a new king and queen want all Muslims and Jews to leave Spain.

How will the rulers’ decision affect your friends?

BUILDING BACKGROUND As you have read, most Europeans in the Middle Ages belonged to the Catholic Church. As Christianity spread in Europe, many Jews and Muslims were pressured to become Christian or leave their homes. At the same time, others openly challenged the church’s authority.

The Church Reacts to Challengers
By around 1100, some Christians had begun to question church teachings. They felt that the clergy focused more on money and land than on God. Others didn’t agree with the church’s ideas. They began to preach their own ideas about religion.

Religious ideas that oppose accepted church teachings are called heresy (HER-uh-see). People who hold such ideas are called heretics. Church officials sent priests and friars throughout Europe to find possible heretics. Most of these priests and friars tried to be fair. A few tortured people until they confessed to heresy, even if they were innocent. Most people found guilty in these trials were fined or put in prison. Others were killed.

In the early 1200s, Pope Innocent III decided that heresy was too great a threat to ignore. He called a crusade against heretics in southern France. With this call, the pope encouraged the king of France and his knights to rid their country of heretics. The result was a bloody war that lasted about 20 years. The war destroyed towns and cost thousands of people their lives.

Finding Main Ideas How did church leaders try to fight heresy?
Christians Fight the Moors

France was not the only place where Christians fought people they saw as the church’s enemies. In Spain and Portugal, armed Christian warriors fought to drive the Muslim Moors out of their lands.

The Weakening of Muslim Control

By the late 900s the once powerful Muslim government of Spain had begun to weaken. Political and religious leaders fought each other for power. Various ethnic groups also fought each other. In 1002 the Muslim government fell apart completely. Caught up in fighting among themselves, Muslim leaders were too busy to guard against the Christian kingdoms of northern Spain.

The Fight against the Moors

For centuries, the kingdoms of northern Spain had been small and weak. But as the Moors’ power declined, these little Christian kingdoms seized the opportunity to attack. Slowly, they took land away from the Moors. They called their efforts to retake Spain from the Moors the Reconquista (reh-kahn-KEESS-tuh), or reconquest.

In 1085 Castile (ka-STEEL), the largest of the Spanish kingdoms, won a great victory against the Moors. The Castilian victory inspired other Christian kingdoms to fight the Moors. The kingdoms of Aragon and Portugal soon joined the fight.

The Christian armies won victory after victory. By the 1250s, the victorious Christian armies had nearly pushed the Moors completely out of Europe.

Although the Moors were driven out, many places in Spain and Portugal still bear names that came from Arabic, the language the Moors spoke.
The only territory still under Muslim control was a small kingdom called Granada (grah-NAH-dah).

The Rise of Portugal and Spain
As a result of their victories, both Portugal and Spain grew more powerful than before. Portugal, once a part of Castile, broke free and declared its independence. Meanwhile, Castile and Aragon decided to unite.

In 1469 Ferdinand, the prince of Aragon, married Isabella, a Castilian princess. Ten years later, they became king and queen of their countries. Together, they ruled all of Spain as King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella.

Ferdinand and Isabella finally brought an end to the Reconquista. In 1492 their army conquered Granada, the last Muslim stronghold in Spain. That same year, they required all Spanish Jews to convert to Christianity or leave the country. A few years later, they banned the practice of Islam as well. Through this policy, all of Spain became Christian.

The Spanish Inquisition
Ferdinand and Isabella wanted only Christians in their kingdom. To ensure that Christianity alone was practiced, they created the Spanish Inquisition, an organization of priests that looked for and punished anyone in Spain suspected of secretly practicing their old religion. Later, the Inquisition spread to Portugal as well.

The Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions were ruthless in seeking heretics, Muslims, and Jews. People found guilty of heresy were sentenced in public ceremonies. Many of those found guilty were killed. They were often burned to death. In total, the Spanish sentenced about 2,000 people to die. Almost 1,400 more were put to death by the Portuguese Inquisition.

Analyzing How did Isabella help promote Spanish culture?

Jews Face Discrimination
Heretics and Muslims were not the only groups punished for their beliefs in the Middle Ages. European Jews also suffered. This suffering was caused by Christians who believed that the Jews had been responsible for the death of Jesus. These Christians thought Jews should be punished.

You have already read about how Jews were killed during the Crusades. You have also read that Jews were forced to leave their homes in Spain. Similar things happened all over Europe. Rulers, supported by the church, forced Jews to leave their countries. For example, in 1290, the king of England arrested all English Jews and forced them to leave the country. The same thing happened in France in 1306 and again in 1394.
In the Holy Roman Empire, frightened people blamed Jews for the arrival of the Black Death. Many Jews had to flee their homes to escape angry mobs. Because the Jews were not Christian, many Europeans didn’t want them in their towns.

**SUMMARY AND PREVIEW** During the Middle Ages, religion shaped how people thought, what they did, and where they lived. In some places religion led to wars and punishment for those who didn’t agree with the Catholic Church. In the next chapter, you will learn about the era that followed the Middle Ages.

**Section 5 Assessment**

**Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People**

1. **Define** What is heresy?  
   **b. Explain** Why did the church send priests and friars to find heretics?  
2. **Identify** Who did Spanish Christians try to drive out of their lands?  
   **b. Explain** What was the purpose of the Spanish Inquisition?  
   **c. Predict** How might Spanish history have been different if the Spanish had not defeated the Moors?  
3. **Summarize** How did kings and other rulers punish Jews in the Middle Ages?

**Critical Thinking**

4. **Categorizing** Draw a chart like the one shown here. Use it to describe Christians’ reactions to different groups in the Middle Ages.

   ![Chart with categories: Heretics, Moors, Jews]

5. **Choosing Important People** There are two more people in this section whose names you can add to your list. Where do they go on the list of most-to-least important? Who is most important?
Interpreting Maps: Cultural Features

**Understand the Skill**

Maps show features on the earth’s surface. *Physical maps* show natural features, such as mountains and rivers. *Political maps* show human features. They may contain such things as boundaries, roads, and settlements. *Historical maps* are political maps that show their subject as it was in the past.

Maps can be of large regions, such as countries or continents. They can also be of smaller places, such as battlefields or towns. Being able to interpret maps can help you understand more about history and geography.

**Learn the Skill**

Follow these steps to gain information from a map.

1. **Read the title to determine what the map is about and the time period it covers.**

2. **Study the map’s legend or key to understand what the colors or symbols on the map mean.** Note its scale, which measures distances.

3. **Pay attention to the map’s other features.** Maps may contain labels or information in addition to what is explained in the legend or key.

You can apply these guidelines to interpret the map of the Old City of Jerusalem that appears here. Modern Jerusalem covers many square miles. Near its center lies the Old City, the ancient part of Jerusalem. The Old City contains places sacred to Jews, Christians, and Muslims. These places made it an important battleground during the Crusades.

One sacred place in the Old City of Jerusalem is Temple Mount—a temple built by ancient Israel’s King Solomon. Its Western Wall is the holiest place in Judaism. Also located on Temple Mount is the rock from which Muslims believe Muhammad ascended into heaven. Nearby is the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. This 1,700-year-old church was built on the site where Christians believe Jesus was crucified, buried, and arose. See if you can find these places on the map below.

**Practice and Apply the Skill**

Interpret the map above to answer the following questions.

1. Into what different neighborhoods was the city divided?

2. How far is the Western Wall from the Jaffa Gate?

3. What is the dark line that surrounds the city? How do you know? What are the white lines on the map?
Standards Review

Visual Summary

Use the visual summary below to help you review the main ideas of the chapter.

**Government**
The church and monarchy often worked together but sometimes were rivals.

**Crusades**
The pope called for Christians to retake the Holy Land.

**The Church**
The church was a powerful influence in the later Middle Ages.

**Education and Society**
The church helped guide learning and reacted to challenges to its authority.

**Art and Architecture**
Christianity inspired great forms of art and architecture.

Reviewing Vocabulary, Terms, and People

Match the words with their definitions.

1. excommunicate
2. religious order
3. Crusades
4. clergy
5. heresy
6. Thomas Aquinas
7. Magna Carta
8. Spanish Inquisition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a. church officials</th>
<th>b. punished non-Christians in Spain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>c. religious ideas that oppose church teachings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. an English document limiting the king’s powers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. cast out from the church</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. thought faith and reason could be used together</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. a group of people who dedicate their lives to religion, live together, and follow the same rules</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. wars fought to regain the Holy Land</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comprehension and Critical Thinking

**SECTION 1** (Pages 260–263)  

9. a. **Describe** What was the relationship between Charlemagne and the pope like?
   b. **Contrast** How did the opinions of popes like Gregory VII about power differ from those of kings like Henry IV?
   c. **Evaluate** Do you think conflict with kings strengthened or weakened medieval popes? Why?

**SECTION 2** (Pages 264–268)  

10. a. **Identify** What was the main goal of the Crusades?
   b. **Draw Conclusions** Why do you think the Crusades changed the relationships between Christians and other groups?
   c. **Evaluate** Which Crusade do you think was most successful? Which was least successful? Why?
SECTION 3 (Pages 269–275)  HSS 7.6.8
11. a. **Describe** How did Christianity shape art and education in the Middle Ages?

   b. **Analyze** Why was Christianity so influential in so many areas of medieval life?

   c. **Elaborate** How were the changes that took place in the medieval church related to its growing power and wealth?

SECTION 4 (Pages 276–279)  HSS 7.6.5, 7.6.7
12. a. **Describe** What was the Black Death, and how did it affect Europe?

   b. **Make Inferences** Why do some people consider Magna Carta to represent the beginning of democracy in England?

   c. **Predict** How might Europe's history have been different if England had won the Hundred Years' War?

SECTION 5 (Pages 282–285)  HSS 7.6.9
13. a. **Identify** What were the results of the Reconquista?

   b. **Draw Conclusions** Why were the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions so feared?

   c. **Elaborate** Why do you think some Christians considered heresy such a threat?

Reviewing Themes
14. **Religion** In what ways did the Crusades demonstrate the power of the church in Europe?

15. **Society and Culture** How did the church affect the lives of ordinary people?

Using the Internet  go.hrw.com
16. **Activity: Evaluating Sources** A challenge for anyone trying to understand the Middle Ages is evaluating the primary and secondary sources. Enter the activity keyword, and then rate the listed sources. Explain whether the source is a primary or secondary source, whether you think it is believable, and your reasoning.

Reading and Analysis Skills
17. **Understanding Cause and Effect** Match a cause in list A with an effect in list B. One effect will not be used.

   **List A**
   1. Some people opposed church teachings.
   2. The pope excommunicated a bishop who didn't agree that the pope was the head of the Catholic Church.
   3. The Turks took control of the Holy Land and seemed ready to attack Constantinople.
   4. Some people gave land to the church when they died.

   **List B**
   a. The clergy became active outside the church in political affairs.
   b. The church created the Inquisition.
   c. Pope Urban II called on Christians to join a Crusade.
   d. Kings gained more power.
   e. The Eastern Orthodox Church was formed.

Social Studies Skills
18. **Using City Maps** Locate a map of your town either in print or on the Internet. Look at the map to find places that serve the same functions as the following locations in medieval towns: a cathedral, a market, the local lord's house, and the mill. What other places can you find in your town that are similar to medieval places? Make a list and compare it with your classmates' lists.

**FOCUS ON WRITING**
19. **Writing Your Article** Review your notes. Be sure you've identified the three people you think are the most important and why they're important. Now write an article explaining why these people were so important to Europe in the Middle Ages. Keep your article short: one or two sentences to introduce your topic, a sentence or two about each important person, and a one- or two-sentence conclusion.
Standards Assessment

**DIRECTIONS:** Read each question, and write the letter of the best response.

1. What historical event was responsible for the population trend shown in the graph?
   A. the Crusades
   B. the Black Death
   C. the Hundred Years' War
   D. the Spanish Inquisition

2. Which of the following had the greatest influence on the lives of most Europeans during the Middle Ages?
   A. towns and trade
   B. the king
   C. religion and the church
   D. universities

3. One reason the Crusades failed to conquer the Holy Land permanently was because
   A. the fighting was a long distance from Europe.
   B. Crusader armies had better weapons than the Muslims did.
   C. religion was not important to most Europeans.
   D. the power of the popes declined.

4. Which statement best describes the relationship between popes and kings during Europe's Middle Ages?
   A. Popes became more powerful than kings.
   B. Many popes became kings, and many kings became popes.
   C. Popes and kings often disagreed with each other.
   D. Kings had more power than popes did.

5. Before the Reconquista, most of the Iberian Peninsula was controlled by
   A. Spaniards.
   B. Portuguese.
   C. Crusaders.
   D. Muslims.

**Connecting with Past Learnings**

6. Muslim culture spread all the way to Spain through conquest and trade. Which culture spread across much of the ancient world in the same way?
   A. Japanese
   B. Harappan
   C. Roman
   D. Sumerian

7. Magna Carta helped introduce democratic ideas to England. The first democracy in the ancient world arose in
   A. Greece.
   B. China.
   C. India.
   D. Rome.
A Historical Narrative

What was life like in Europe in the Middle Ages? Where did people live? How did they spend their days? You can learn more about history by researching and writing a narrative that is set in a different time and place.

1. Prewrite

Planning Character and Setting
You should write your narrative from the point of view of someone who lived during that time.

- **The Narrator** Is the person telling your story a knight, a peasant, or a priest? A lady or a lady’s maid?
- **The Event** What event or incident will your narrator experience? A jousting tournament? A Viking invasion? A religious pilgrimage? A famine or fire in the village?
- **The Setting** How will the time, between 800 and 1200 AD, and place, somewhere in Europe, affect this person? What will he or she want out of life or would fear or admire?

Developing a Plot
Select an event or incident, and then ask yourself these questions.

- How would the event have unfolded? In other words, what would have happened first, second, third, and so on?
- What problem might face your narrator during this event? How could your narrator solve this problem?

2. Write
Have your narrator tell what happened in the first person, using *I, me, we, us*, etc. For example, *I woke up early. We stopped by a stream.* Then use the framework below to help you write your first draft.

A Writer’s Framework

**Introduction**
- Grab the reader’s attention.
- Offer needed background information about the place and the people involved in the event.

**Body**
- Start with the beginning of the incident or event, and present the actions in the order they happen.
- Build to a suspenseful moment when the outcome is uncertain.

**Conclusion**
- Show how the narrator solves his or her problem.
- Explain how the narrator changes or how his or her life changes.
3. Evaluate and Revise

**Evaluating**
Read through the first draft of your narrative. Then use the guidelines below to consider its content and organization.

**Evaluation Questions for a Fictional Historical Narrative**

- Do you grab the reader's attention at the very beginning?
- Do you include background information to explain the time, place, and people involved in the event?
- Do you use first-person pronouns to show that your narrator is the central person in the event?
- Do you tell the actions in the order they happen or happened?
- Do you show how the narrator solves the problem or how it is solved for him or her?
- Do you explain how the narrator changes as a result of the event?

**Revising**
Before you share your narrative with others, have a classmate read it and retell the narrative to you. Add details at any point where his or her retelling seems uncertain or dull. Add transitions to show how events are connected in time.

4. Proofread and Publish

**Proofreading**
Weak word choice can drain the life from your narrative. Vague nouns and adjectives do little to spark the interest and imagination of readers. In contrast, precise words make your story come alive. They tell readers exactly what the characters and setting are like.

- **Vague Nouns or Pronouns** Words like *man* and *it* tell your readers little. Replace them with precise words, like *peasant* or *cottage.*
- **Vague Adjectives** Would you prefer an experience that is *nice* or *fun,* or one that is *thrilling,* *exhilarating,* or *stirring?*

**Publishing**
You can publish your historical narrative by reading it aloud in class or by posting it on a class authors' wall. You may also publish all the narratives in your class as an Internet page or in a photocopied literary magazine.

**Practice and Apply**
Use the steps and strategies outlined in this workshop to write your historical narrative.