

Task 1 – Vocabulary: people in the 1200s

Match the words in the box to the pictures and definitions.

knight widow baron peasant monk



a wealthy aristocrat



a man who lives with
a religious
community



a woman whose
husband has died



a poor farmer



a medieval soldier
who could fight on
a horse

Task 2 – Quiz about common problems in the 1200s

1. When a woman's husband died, she had to ...
 - A. buy permission from the king to remarry.
 - B. wear black clothes for one year.
 - C. marry an unmarried relative of her husband's.

2. In order to inherit their dead father's land, his children had to ...
 - A. sing 'God Save the King' in English, Latin and French.
 - B. pay the king a huge sum of money.
 - C. give the king two swans as a present.

3. If a knight did not want to fight for the king, he had to ...
 - A. find a replacement to fight instead.
 - B. pay the king a big fine.
 - C. leave the country.

4. The king made sure that his barons stayed loyal by ...
 - A. taking their sons and nephews as hostages.
 - B. offering them gold and land.
 - C. inviting them to dine with him every Christmas.

5. Monks were forced to ...
 - A. pray for the king all day long.
 - B. become vegetarian.
 - C. agree to give the king as much treasure as he wanted.

6. If a man was accused of a crime, he would ...
 - A. be given a fair trial and only be sent to prison if found guilty.
 - B. lose all his possessions and wait in prison for a long time before his trial.
 - C. be made to join the king's army.

7. If a peasant killed a deer in the king's forest, which punishment might he receive?
 - A. Both hands cut off or blinded in both eyes
 - B. Five years in prison
 - C. A big fine

Task 3 – Language of negotiation

Your teacher is going to read out some short phrases used in negotiations. Listen to the phrases and write them beside the correct headings. The first two have been done for you.

Putting across a point: *In my opinion ...*

Asking for clarification:

Agreeing:

Disagreeing: *I don't think so.*

Interrupting:

Stopping someone interrupting:

Concluding the negotiation:

Task 4 – Role play: agreeing on a petition to present to King John

Imagine that the year is 1215. You live in England, but are unhappy with the laws that King John has made you live under, and you want to complain formally to him.

Your teacher will give you a role. Work with other students to decide on the wording of a petition, which you will send to the king, outlining the main grievances of the group.