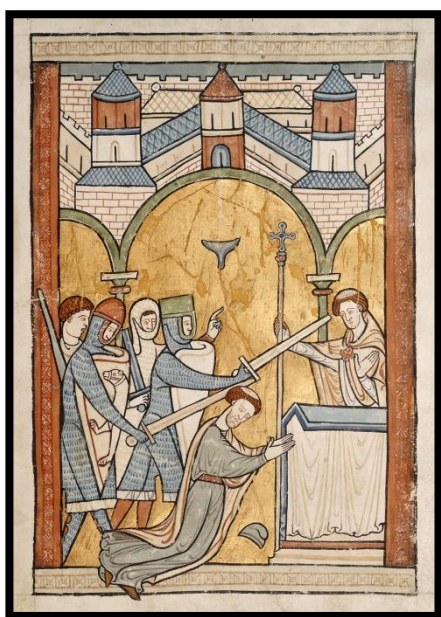


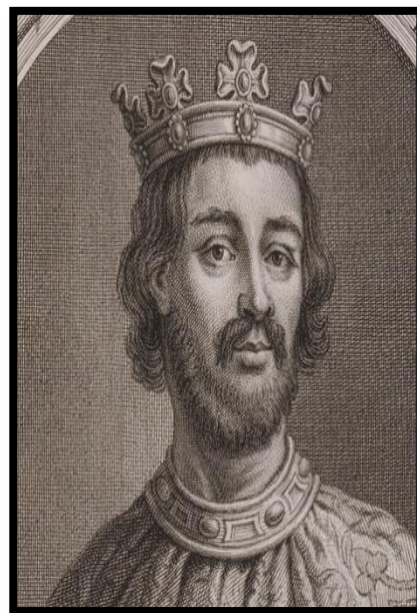
Year 7

History Homework Booklet

Spring Term 2026 -2027



Topic 4: What power did the Church have in the Middle Ages?



Topic 5: How did the Barons limit the power of kings in the 13th century?

Name:

Class:

Teacher:

Homework 1

Task 1:

Learn core knowledge questions 1-14 of **Topic 4: What power did the Church have in the Middle Ages?**

You can use strategies like flashcards or 'cover, write, reveal'.

Task 2:

Complete the core knowledge test below. Aim to do this from memory. Use your core knowledge if you need to.

Question	Answer
Who is head of the Catholic Church?	
What word means against the rules of God?	
Who are the clergy?	
What happens to someone when they have been officially excluded from the Catholic Church?	
What name is given to the place between heaven and hell?	
What is a monk?	
Who controls the Catholic religion in a diocese?	
What is the highest ranking Church position in England in the Middle Ages?	
What is a monastery?	
The name given to a series of religious wars in the Middle Ages.	

Task 3: Read through the diary of Arthur, a novice monk and answer the questions which follow under it.

The diary of novice Arthur, aged 13½

14 June

What a busy day! Brother Gerald woke me up at two in the morning for prayers in church. I could hardly keep awake, never mind pray for an hour. When I got back into bed at 3 o'clock I couldn't sleep because my robes were too itchy and it was freezing cold as well.

I was up again at 6 o'clock for more prayers. An hour later we had our breakfast. We eat in the refectory. It was bread and ale again; sometimes we have porridge but it is always cold and horrible. None of us is allowed to make any noise at all, not even to talk. Novice Charles isn't very good at remembering this rule, so he gets beaten a lot with the whip. He sometimes has to sleep face down because his back is cut to ribbons.

At 8 o'clock we met in the chapter house to organise work for the day. We didn't get any choice – we were just told what to do. After a short relaxing walk in the cloisters, I went off to do my morning's work in the scriptorium. I cut and smooth animal skins to make vellum to write on. I sometimes help to copy out books and decorate the capital letters and margins. At 11 o'clock we prayed again.



We ate our dinner at midday – soup, fish, bread and ale. Then there were more prayers before going out into the fields. I also spent some time in the mill today, grinding corn into flour. We're always busy here. Although our first duty is to God, our second duty is to help local people. Not all of them can afford a doctor so we provide basic free care for the sick – herbal medicines, rest and a meal. We also teach a few of the local children in our small school, provide shelter to travellers and collect clothing, food and money for the poor.

I didn't feel too well this afternoon so I called into the infirmary. Brother John told me to chew some poppy seeds to relieve my aching head.

We prayed again at 6 o'clock before eating our supper. Only bread and water for me, because Brother Gerald didn't think I had worked very hard. After supper we prayed again.

I've just polished my tonsure with a piece of stone. I must keep it free of hair – I don't want to get whipped. It's 9 o'clock and I'm about to blow out the candle in my dormitory. I have to be awake again at 2 o'clock in the morning.




1. List two challenges monks like Arthur faced during the night period (from 2am to 6 am)?

- _____
- _____

2. What rule did the monks follow during mealtimes, such as breakfast?

3. List two ways the monks helped the local people:

- _____
- _____

4. State two types of punishment monks may have received in the monastery.

- _____
- _____

Homework 2

Task 1:

Learn core knowledge questions 11-20 of **Topic 4: What power did the Church have in the Middle Ages?** You can use strategies like flashcards or 'cover, write, reveal'.

Task 2:

Complete the core knowledge test below. Aim to do this from memory. Use your core knowledge if you need to.

Question	Answer
Who was murdered in 1170?	
What is the name of the church tax?	
Give three reasons why the church was so powerful in the Middle Ages.	
Which king tried to control his Archbishop Thomas Becket?	
Give the word to describe the knightly system with a religious, moral and social code of conduct.	
What is a pilgrimage?	
What are the different parts of a PEEL paragraph?	
Give two reasons why people went on a crusade.	
What is an interpretation?	
What is a merchant?	

Task 3: Using sources to make inferences.

Read through Source A about the murder of Thomas Becket and complete the questions below.

Source A: A written account by William Fitzstephen in 1172. He was Becket's clerk and friend.

One of the knights struck him with the flat of his sword between the shoulders, saying, 'Fly, you are a dead man.' The knights tried to drag him out of the church. But the monks held him back. Edward Grim, one of the monks, putting his arm up, received the first stroke of the sword and was severely wounded. By the same stroke the Archbishop was wounded in the head. As he knelt down clasping and stretching his hands out to God, a second stroke was dealt him on the head at which he fell at the altar. While he lay there a knight struck him with such force that the sword was broken against his head. Four wounds in all did the saintly Archbishop receive. The whole of the crown of his head was lopped off. But he didn't try to avoid or stop the blows. He accepted death from a desire to be with God.

A) Who created this source?

B) What is this source?

C) When was this source created?

D) Is this source a primary source or a secondary source? Give a reason to support your answer.

E) What is the purpose of this source? Consider a reason why it was created.

F) Using the source, give one inference (suggestion) about the murder of Thomas Becket.

G) Evidence, copied from the source, to support it:

Homework 3

Task 1:

Learn core knowledge questions 1-10 of **Topic 5: Could Monarchs do as they pleased?** You can use strategies like flashcards or 'cover, write, reveal'.

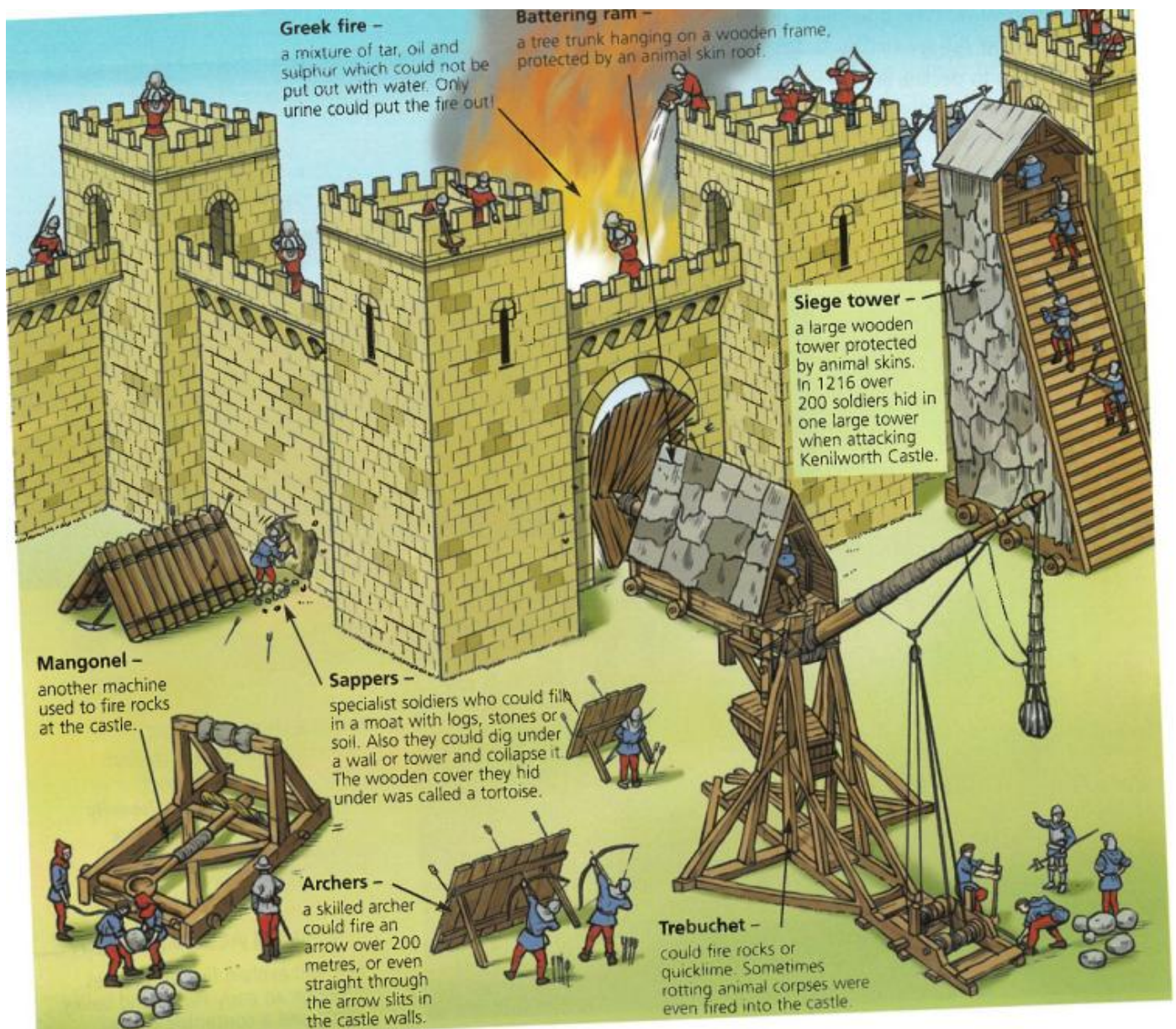
Task 2:

Complete the core knowledge test below. Aim to do this from memory. Use your core knowledge if you need to.

Question	Answer
What word is used to describe the rule of a monarch?	
Give a definition of democracy.	
What was the Magna Carta?	
What is a Civil War?	
Give a definition of parliament.	
What is a rebellion?	
What name is given to a piece of territory?	
What did king John sign in 1215?	
Give two reasons why King John was unpopular.	
Give two reasons why the Magna Carta was important.	

Task 3: The siege of Rochester Castle

Look carefully at the image and labels in the picture below and read the information about the siege. Complete tasks 1-4 below.



The siege of Rochester castle.

As you can see from the picture above, Rochester castle was very well defended. The outer walls were 3 m thick and the walls of the main tower were over 34 m high. At first, king John decided to lay siege to the castle. A siege is when attackers sit down and wait. They stop anyone getting in or out of the castle – and when the food runs out, the people inside have to give up and surrender, or starve to death.

However, after a few weeks the king realised he was wasting his time. The barons had enough food and water to hold out for weeks, maybe months. So John, scrapped the siege and instructed his army to use some of the latest weapons – battering rams, mangonels and trebuchets to get in and defeat the barons.

But as hard as they tried, king John's soldiers just couldn't smash down the thick walls. After a few weeks he learned that other barons were coming to help the barons inside the castle. He needed a plan quickly!

The king's clever idea was to instruct his sappers to dig a tunnel, held up with wooden props under the castle walls. He sent his soldiers to find 40 fat pigs and bring them to his camp. He told his soldiers to set fire to the wooden props and throw the pigs onto the fire. The tunnel caved in and the wall began to crack. Eventually it fell down and the king's army stormed in! The siege of Rochester castle was over – thanks to 40 fat pigs.

1. Write a definition of a siege.

2. What was the role of a sapper?

3. How did king John eventually get into the castle?

4. What is the difference between a siege Tower and a Trebuchet?

5. Imagine you are trying to defend Rochester castle. Describe two ways (use clues from the picture) you would use to protect the castle.

A: _____

B: _____

Homework 4

Task 1: Learn core knowledge questions 10-20 of **Topic 5: How did Barons limit the power of kings in the 13th century?** You can use strategies like flashcards or 'cover, write, reveal'.

Task 2:

Complete the core knowledge test below. Aim to do this from memory. Use your core knowledge if you need to.

Question	Answer
What is a burgess?	
When did Henry III become king?	
What is a source in history?	
What is a regent?	
What is the nature of a source?	
Which individual has been described as one of the most powerful women in medieval society?	
What is the origin of a source?	
When did John become king?	
What word is used to describe when people disagree?	
What is the purpose of a source?	

Task 3:

Task 3: A primary source is anything that has been created by people living during the event or the period of study. Below is a **primary source** which gives information about King John. Read it carefully and then complete the tasks which follow.

Source A: Matthew Paris was a monk and chronicler who was born c.1200 and died in 1259. He wrote the above quotation in his history of England, Historia Anglorum.

'John was a tyrant rather than a king, an oppressor of his own people ... owing to his idleness, he had lost Normandy and many of his territories and moreover was eager to lose or destroy the kingdom of England; and he was an insatiable extorter of money, and an invader and destroyer of the possessions of his own countrymen.'

Q1. Who is the author of this source? _____

Q2. When was this source written? _____

Q3. Using the information in the source, what does the author suggest about King John? List these in the space below.

Q4. Does the author give a positive view or a negative view of king John. Circle your choice below.

A) Positive view

B) Negative view

Q5. What evidence from the source helps to justify your decision to question 4? Copy out a sentence or a phrase from the source directly and write it in the space provided.

Q6. From your own knowledge, give two reasons that are not provided in the source to explain why king John was not a popular king.

1. _____

2. _____

Homework 5

Task 1: Learn core knowledge questions for **Topic 4 and Topic 5**. You can use strategies like flashcards or 'cover, write, reveal'.

Task 2: Complete the core knowledge test below. Aim to do this from memory. Use your core knowledge if you need to.

Question	Answer
Who are the clergy?	
What happens to someone when they have been officially excluded from the Catholic Church?	
What is a monastery?	
The name given to a series of religious wars in the Middle Ages.	
Which king tried to control his Archbishop Thomas Becket?	
What is a rebellion?	
What is a regent?	
What word is used to describe the rule of a monarch?	
What is a Civil War?	
What is a source in history?	

Task 3: Read the paragraphs below carefully and then answer the questions that follow.

Between 1533 and 1534, King Henry VIII decided to break away from the Roman Catholic Church after the Pope refused to allow him to end his marriage to Catherine of Aragon. Henry made himself the Head of the Church of England instead of the Pope. This change affected ordinary people across England. Many churches lost their connection to Rome, and monks and nuns had to leave their monasteries when they were closed. Some people welcomed the changes because they believed the Church had become too wealthy, while others remained loyal to the Pope and were upset by the new laws. Religious services gradually changed, and people had to accept the King's authority over the Church. Those who openly opposed Henry's decisions could be fined, imprisoned or even executed. For many families, the Break with Rome brought uncertainty as familiar religious traditions began to disappear and new rules replaced old ones.

In 1536, many people in northern England joined a protest called the **Pilgrimage of Grace**. Around 30,000 men took part, making it the largest rebellion of Henry VIII's reign. The protesters were angry about the closure of monasteries. They believed that the monasteries helped poor people by offering them charity, prayer and medical help, and that the King had been given bad advice by his ministers, especially Thomas Cromwell. The rebels marched peacefully at first, carrying religious banners and demanding that the monasteries should remain open. Henry VIII promised to listen to their complaints and offered pardons if they returned home. Trusting the King's word, many of the rebels left. However, when another smaller uprising took place soon afterwards, Henry accused the rebels of breaking their promises. The leaders of the Pilgrimage of Grace, including Robert Aske, were arrested and executed. Although the rebellion failed, it showed that many people strongly opposed Henry's religious reforms. Despite this, Henry refused to accept their complaints, and monasteries across England continued to disappear.

1. Why did Henry VIII decide to break away from the Roman Catholic Church?

2. Who became the Head of the Church of England after 1534?

3. Why were some people happy about Henry's religious changes?

4. What change caused the greatest anger amongst ordinary people?

5. Why were the monasteries important to ordinary people?

6. List two outcomes or effects of the Pilgrimage of Grace.

Homework 6

Task 1: Learn core knowledge questions for **Topic 4 and Topic 5**. You can use strategies like flashcards or 'cover, write, reveal'.

Task 2: Complete the core knowledge test below. Aim to do this from memory. Use your core knowledge if you need to.

Question	Answer
What is an interpretation?	
Give 3 reasons why the Church was so powerful in the Middle Ages?	
What is a monastery?	
Who is the Head of the Catholic Church?	
Give a definition of Parliament.	
What did King John sign in 1215?	
What is a regent?	
What is a burgess?	
Give two reasons why the Magna Carta was important.	
What are the different parts of a PEEL paragraph?	

Task 3: Each of King Henry's 6 wives is described below. Use the information to complete the table on PG 16 of your homework booklet.

Catherine of Aragon (Married 1509–1533)

Catherine of Aragon was Henry VIII's first wife. She was a Spanish princess and had originally been married to Henry's older brother, Arthur, who died shortly after their marriage. Henry and Catherine were married for nearly 24 years and had one surviving child, Princess Mary. Henry wanted a son to become king, so he asked the Pope to end his marriage. When the Pope refused, Henry broke away from the Roman Catholic Church. Their marriage ended in divorce (annulment). Catherine spent the rest of her life living away from the royal court in a nunnery and died in 1536.

Anne Boleyn (Married 1533–1536)

Anne Boleyn was Henry's second wife. She had spent time at the French court and was well educated. Henry fell deeply in love with her and hoped she would give him a son. Instead, Anne gave birth to a daughter, Princess Elizabeth, who later became one of England's greatest queens. After several miscarriages, Henry lost interest in Anne. She was accused of treason and plotting against the King. Although many historians believe the charges were false, Anne was found guilty and executed at the Tower of London in 1536.

Jane Seymour (Married 1536–1537)

Jane Seymour became Henry's third wife just days after Anne Boleyn's execution. She was known for being gentle and quiet. In 1537, she gave birth to Henry's long-awaited son, Prince Edward. Sadly, Jane became ill after the birth and died less than two weeks later. Henry was deeply saddened by her death and chose to be buried beside her when he died in 1547.

Anne of Cleves (Married January–July 1540)

Anne of Cleves was a German princess. Henry agreed to marry her to strengthen England's friendship with German Protestant states. However, when Anne arrived in England, Henry decided he did not find her attractive. Their marriage was never fully completed and lasted only six months before it was ended by annulment. Anne accepted the divorce and was treated well by Henry. She was given houses, money and the title of the King's "Beloved Sister." She lived comfortably in England for the rest of her life.

Catherine Howard (Married 1540–1542)

Catherine Howard was Henry's fifth wife and was much younger than him. She was lively and popular at court, and Henry was very fond of her. However, it was later discovered that Catherine had relationships with other men before and during her marriage. She was arrested and charged with treason. In 1542, she was executed at the Tower of London. Henry was said to be shocked and heartbroken by her betrayal.

Catherine Parr (Married 1543–1547)

Catherine Parr was Henry's sixth and final wife. She was intelligent, well educated and had already been married twice before meeting Henry. Catherine helped care for the ageing King during his final years and encouraged the education of his children, Mary, Elizabeth and Edward. She also wrote books about religion, making her the first English queen to publish under her own name. Catherine survived Henry, who died in 1547. She later remarried but died after giving birth to a daughter in 1548.

Use the information on PG 15 of your course booklet to complete the table below.

Wife	When did Henry marry her?	What was she known for?	Why did the marriage end?	One interesting fact.
Catherine of Aragon				
Anne Boleyn				
Jane Seymour				
Anne of Cleves				
Catherine Howard				
Catherine Parr				

Core knowledge questions

Topic 4: What power did the Church have in the Middle Ages?

1	Who is head of the Catholic Church?	The Pope
2	What is the highest ranking Church position in England in the Middle Ages?	Archbishop
3	What word means against the rules of God?	Sin
4	Who are the clergy?	Members of the Church
5	What is a monk?	A member of a religious community of men.
6	What happens to someone when they have been officially excluded from the Catholic Church?	Excommunicated
7	What is a monastery?	A collection of buildings lived in by a group of monks or nuns who live under strict religious vows.
8	What name is given to the place between heaven and hell?	Purgatory
9	The name given to a series of religious wars in the Middle Ages.	The Crusades
10	Who controls the Catholic religion in a diocese?	A Bishop
11	What is a pilgrimage?	A religious journey to a holy site
12	Give the word to describe the knightly system with a religious, moral and social code of conduct.	Chivalry
13	Who was murdered in 1170?	Thomas Becket
14	Give two reasons why people went on a Crusade.	To obey the Pope's call To be forgiven of their sins To increase their wealth
15	What is the name of the Church tax?	A Tithe

16	What are the different parts of a PEEL paragraph?	Point Evidence Explanation Link
17	What is an interpretation?	The view of an historian
18	What is a merchant?	A person who buys and sells products to make money (a trader)
19	Give three reasons why the Church was so powerful in the Middle Ages.	The power of excommunication The Church courts They controlled education
20	Which king tried to control his Archbishop Thomas Becket?	King Henry II

Topic 5: How did the barons limit the power of kings in the 13th century?

1	What word is used to describe the rule of a monarch?	Reign
2	Give a definition of democracy.	Where the people have a say in how the country is ruled
3	What did king John sign in 1215?	The Magna Carta
4	What was the Magna Carta?	A document of rules which limited the power of the king
5	Give two reasons why the Magna Carta was important.	- Limited the power monarchs - Helped England to become a democracy
6	What is a Civil War?	A war fought between two sides from the same country.
7	What name is given to a piece of territory?	Duchy
8	Give a definition of parliament	The institution where elected people debate laws and issues.
9	What is a rebellion?	Violent actions used against the government or monarch.
10	What reasons show why King John was unpopular?	- He increased taxes - He was a poor military leader - He lost land in France - He was excommunicated
11	What word is used to describe when people disagree?	Controversial.
12	What is a burgess?	A wealthy towns person.
13	When did Henry III become king?	1216
14	Which individual has been described as one of the most powerful women in Medieval society?	Eleanor of Aquitaine
15	When did John become king?	1199

16	What is a source in history?	A source is anything that gives us information about the past.
17	What is the nature of a source?	The type of source it is.
18	What is the purpose of a source?	The reason why the source was written.
19	What is the origin of a source?	The creator of the source and the date it was made.
20	What is a regent?	The person who rules in the absence of a monarch.