The Medieval Period (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

Study Guide

**THE NORMAN CONQUEST OF ENGLAND**

1. How did the Anglo-Saxon period end? (include the battle, who was conquered, and who conquered)
2. Where were the Normans from? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. What language did they speak? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. After the four years of fighting after the Battle of Hastings, what did the Normans accomplish?

A.

B.

C.

**ANGLO-NORMAN LITERATURE**

1. What language was spoken by the lower-class of England during the Anglo-Norman period? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. What language was spoken by the noble classes? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Who continued to produce works in English? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. How else was English kept alive during this time?
5. Describe Anglo-Norman literature
6. How was Anglo-Norman poetry different than Anglo-Saxon poetry (describe both)?

**THE ORGANIZATION OF MEDIEVAL SOCIETY**

1. What is feudalism?
2. For the following pyramid, fill in the following in the order of power in Medieval Society (Barons, Freemen, King, Knights, The Pope, Serfs)
3. What is vassalage?
4. What is a vassal?
5. Describe the life of a serf during this time period.

**THE INFLUENCE OF THE CHURCH**

1. Vast resources from the Catholic Church went into building \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Did the government officials of England and Catholic Church leaders always get along? Explain.
3. Much of medieval literature deals with what?
4. What is memento mori?
5. What is contempt mundi?
6. Why do you think these two themes (#4 and #5) were prevalent in Medieval literature?
7. The Catholic Church also waged holy wars known as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
8. These holy wars brought what important development to English literature?

ROMANCE LITERATURE, CHIVALRY, COUTRLY LOVE

1. What is a romance?
2. What is chivalry?
3. What are the virtues of chivalry?
4. Although the love does play a major role in early romance literature, at root medieval romances were

stories of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. With what did romances deal?
2. What is a quest?
3. What is courtly love?
4. What are the most famous and enduring English romances written about (person)?
5. What is a ballad?
6. Name some subjects of ballads.

MEDIEVAL DRAMA

1. Where were plays performed?
2. What is a mystery play?
3. What is a miracle play?
4. What is a morality play?

POLITCAL DEVELOPMENTS

1. A system of traveling judges rulings made up the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of England that still provides the basis for the legal systems of England and the U.S.
2. Another innovation during this time, was the creation of a representative ruling body was known as a

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. During the late Medieval Period, England fought \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ against France.
2. The first stirrings of demands for individual liberty and human rights by the common people was shown through the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CHANGES

1. What are guilds?
2. What group of people emerged during this time?
3. What devastated England (killing one-third of its inhabitants) during this time?
4. John Wycliff did what important thing for the English language?
5. William Caxton did what important thing for the English language?
6. How did the Medieval period end?

In addition to this information, you must know the background information, general plots, characters, and questions for *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Le Morte d’Arthur,* and *The Canterbury Tales****.* This is a large test, please take your time and study accordingly.**