

Q. If you had the job of “sniggler” in medieval times, you would have been:

- A. Taking debris out of wool before it was spun
- B. Juggling, telling jokes to entertain people
- C. Catching eels in rivers

A. C is the right answer.

R-01

Q. Which is the odd one out?

Villein, Bordar, Serf or Housecarl.

A. Housecarl.

All the others are names for peasants. A Housecarl was an elite, well-trained member of the Anglo-Saxon army.

R-02

Q. What was the name of the battle at which the English King, Harold, defeated the Norwegian, Harald Hardrada, in 1066?

A. The Battle of Stamford Bridge.

R-03

Q. How did Bishop Odo get around the rule that men of the Church should not shed blood when he fought at the Battle of Hastings?

A. He used a club or mace to beat the enemy to death.

R-04

Q. Who was Hereward the Wake?

A. An 11th century “freedom fighter” for the English.

R-05

Q. In castle-building, what is a machiolation?

A. It is a defensive structure on a castle. Like a balcony, it jutted out from a castle wall and things like hot oil could be dropped on the enemy from it.

R-06

Q. Which King of England died from eating too many lampreys (a type of small eel)?

A. Henry I

R-07

Q. If you heard the words “gardey loo” being called out in a medieval town, would you:

- A. Take off your hat and bow as an important person was about to pass by
- B. Go quickly towards the caller as a fun, medieval dance was about to start
- C. Get out of the way of the caller before they emptied a bucket of dirty water, or worse, wee and poo, on you

A. C is the right answer.

R-08

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Q. Which prince died in the White Ship Disaster in 1120?

A. William, only surviving, legitimate son of Henry I.

R-09

Q. Which royal person escaped from Oxford Castle on a snowy night in 1141 covered in a white sheet?

A. Matilda, contender for the English throne. The white sheet was used for camouflage.

R-10

Q. True or False?

A Burgage Plot was a plan to steal beef cattle.

A. False. It was a plot of land in a town, usually on the side of a market square, whose tenant owed no servile duties to the Lord of the Manor.

R-11

Q. From where does the name “Plantagenet” come?

A. The father, Geoffrey of Anjou, of the first Plantagenet King of England used to wear a sprig of broom, or “genet” in French, in his hat. Geoffrey’s nickname, “Plantagenet”, stuck with his family too.

R-12

Q. Who was Saladin (1138 – 93)?

A. A successful, tough Muslim military leader of Kurdish origin who fought against European Crusaders, including Richard I.

R-13

Q. True or False?

In medieval times, if you suffered from ear-ache, you might make a wax model of your ear and then place the model at a holy shrine and pray for healing.

A. True

R-14

Q. What happened to Richard I’s son, Arthur, shortly after Richard died?

- A. He was crowned King of England
- B. He died of natural causes before being crowned
- C. He was murdered, probably by his uncle who became King John

A. C is the right answer.

R-15

Q. True or False?

Cistercian monks were known for living in towns in order to preach to greater numbers of people.

A. False. Friars were known for this. Cistercians tended to live in remote areas and devote themselves to prayer and rural work. Some Cistercian monasteries became very successful at sheep-farming.

R-16

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Q. Who led the Scots to victory over the English at the Battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297?

A. William Wallace

R-17

Q. Which King of England had the nickname, "Lackland" because, being the youngest son, he inherited no land?

A. King John

R-18

Q. Which King of England had the nicknames, "Longshanks" (from his long legs) and "Hammer of the Scots"?

A. Edward I

R-19

Q. Who called the first Parliament with some elected representatives in 1265? Was it:

- A. Henry III
- B. Simon de Montfort
- C. Edward I

A. B is the right answer.

R-20

Q. Who started a war with the French in 1337 which became known as the "Hundred Years War?"

A. Edward III

R-21

Q. In what year did the plague known as the "Black Death" first arrive in England? Was it:

- A. 1401
- B. 1348
- C. 1381

A. B is the right answer.

R-22

Q. Who captured Richard II, imprisoned him at Pontefract Castle and then became King of England?

A. Henry Bolingbroke, Richard's cousin, who became Henry IV.

R-23

Q. Who was Wat Tyler?

A. A leader of the Peasants' Revolt in 1381.

R-24

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Q. Who were the Lollards?

- A. Peasants who refused to work for their lords when labourers were in short supply after the Black Death
- B. Followers of John Wyclif's teachings and considered heretical by the Catholic Church
- C. A famous group of travelling 13th century musicians

R-25

Q. Who took the throne from Henry VI during the Wars of the Roses?

- A. Edward of York who became Edward IV.

R-26

Q. What was the nickname of the powerful Earl of Warwick who initially fought against Henry VI in the Wars of the Roses but later switched his allegiance and helped Henry regain the throne?

- A. The Kingmaker

R-27

Q. What was the name of the battle at which Richard III lost to Henry Tudor?

- A. The Battle of Bosworth Field

R-28

Q.

Which English King established the Order of the Garter in the 1300s?

- A. Edward III

R-29

Q. Richard II's father, Prince Edward, had a well-known nickname. What was it?

- A. The Black Prince (on account of the colour of his armour).

R-30

Q. "Honi soit qui mal y pense" is the motto of the members of the Order of the Garter. What does it mean?

- A. Shame on he who thinks evil of it.

R-31

Q. True or False?

Ploughmen, shepherds, dairymen and other people not having more than 40 shillings' worth of goods were forbidden by law in 1363 from wearing satin or silk or cloth embroidered with gold or silver.

- A. True. Many people had more disposable income but it was deemed that they should still dress according to their status.

R-32

A. B is the right answer.

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