

# Year 7 History

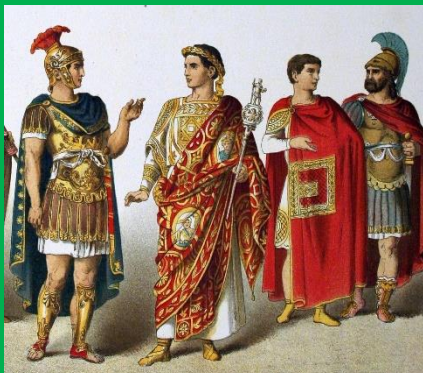
## Knowledge Organiser

### Medieval Realms 2

#### Term 4

Name:

Class:



## Medieval Realms 2

### **Big Questions:**

- 1) Does King John deserve to be known as bad King John?
- 2) Why did King John sign the Magna Carta and what was Northampton's role in it?
- 3) What was the Black Death?
- 4) What was the Peasants Revolt?
- 5) What happened during the battle of Agincourt?
- 6) What was the first War of the Roses?
- 7) What happened at the battle of Northampton?
- 8) Why did Henry Tudor win the battle of Bosworth?

King John ruled England at a difficult time. He faced wars with France, a shortage of money and clashes with powerful English barons. The barons became increasingly angry with John and eventually forced him to agree to changes in how England worked, written down in the Magna Carta. The Magna Carta is seen as the basis of many English laws and helped to influence the US constitution, which was written over 500 years later.

The Wars of the Roses are some of the most notorious battles to have taken place in British history. They were a series of civil wars which occurred between two rival families from the royal House of Plantagenet; the House of York and the House of Lancaster.

There were 12 separate battles which took place between 1455 and 1487. During that period, three kings were removed from power, with two of them dying during battle.

The wars eventually ended in 1485. The final victory went to Lancastrian Henry Tudor and he became Henry VII. He was the father of the infamous king known for beheading two of his wives - Henry VIII!

## Big Question 1

### Does King John deserve to be known as bad King John?

Below are some of the events that occurred in King John's reign. You may start to get an understanding of why he developed his nickname.

<b>1199</b> King John becomes King. He has no money as it has been spent by his older brother Richard the Lionheart on the Crusades.	
<b>1203</b> Arthur, Duke of Brittany, John's nephew and rival for the throne is murdered. He is only 16.	<b>1209</b> The Pope excommunicates (removes him from the Catholic Church) John. John takes the Churches land and money.
<b>1203-04</b> John is defeated in war with France. He loses most of his French lands.	<b>1214</b> John tries to win back lands in France. He loses and short of money he tries to make the barons pay more taxes.
<b>1207</b> John falls out with the Pope. He doesn't like the man the Pope has chosen for Archbishop of Canterbury.	<b>1215</b> The Barons rebel against John. They force him to sign the Magna Carta, which is a document that sets out rules that say how John must rule. This limits his power.
<b>1208</b> The Pope bans all church services in England. Nobody can go to Heaven or get married.	<b>1216</b> John dies.



## Big Question 2

Why did King John sign the Magna Carta and what was Northamptonshire's role in it?



**The 'Great Charter'** - In the early summer of 1215 a group of barons rose in revolt against King John. They felt John was ruling badly. His wars were costing a lot of money. To get hold of more money he was doing cruel and unfair things. He charged the barons huge amounts of money to take over their family's land when their father died. For example in 1213 John de Lacey had to pay £4,666 to inherit his father's land. Most barons thought it should cost only £100. John imprisoned those who could not pay him the money they owed him. William de Broase owed John over £3000. He was forced to leave the country, and his wife and son were thrown into prison with only a lump of uncooked bacon to eat. John let them starve to death. When their bodies were finally removed it was found that the son had started to eat his dead mother before he too finally died. In June 1215 the king met the barons at Runnymede, in Surrey.



Northampton was one of the King's favourite castles and where he spent feast days (Christmas, Easter, and Whitsun). It was also where the barons had sworn their loyalty to him when he became King.

## Big Question 3

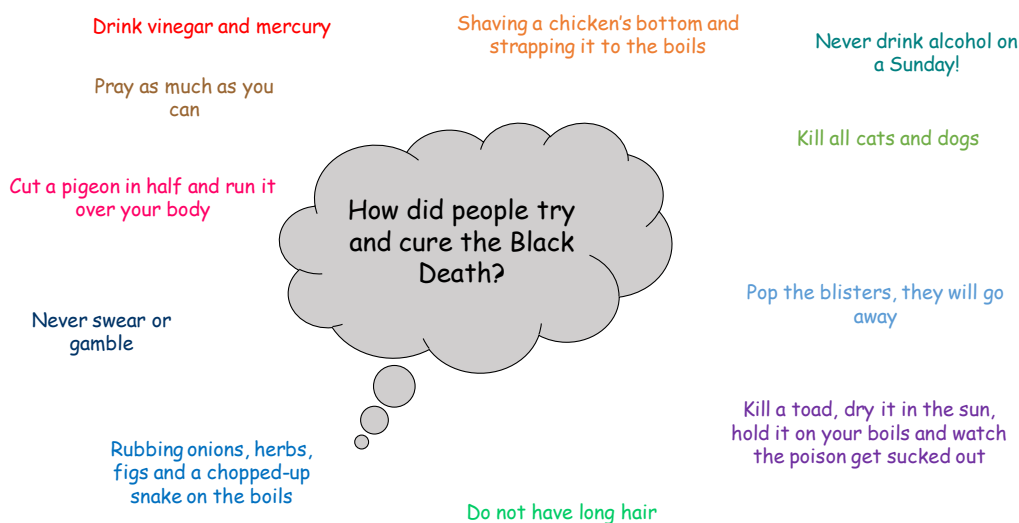
### What was the Black Death?

#### The Bubonic plague

- Caused by germs that lived in the blood of black rats and in the fleas of their bodies. The fleas would hop onto humans and bite them, passing on the disease.
- Victims would get a fever and large boils (called buboes) in their armpits, groin and behind their ears. Then the victim would develop a rash of red and black spots.
- The illness lasted about a week, and killed seven out of ten people.
- We know that fleas can also live on other animals, such as cats and dogs.

#### The Pneumonic plague

- Caused by the same germ from black rats and fleas, but the symptoms were different and more deadly. It was caught by breathing infected air – it attacked the lungs, causing victims to cough up blood and to spread deadly germs as they sneezed.
- The victims' breath would smell as their lungs rotted inside them.
- Victims would die within a week.



### Big Question 4

#### What was the impact of the Peasants Revolt?

In 1381, peasants rebelled against King Richard II.

The peasants were angry about a range of issues, such as low pay and the introduction of a poll tax. They demanded changes were made.

The revolt did not achieve all of the peasants' aims and the leader, Wat Tyler, was killed. In the longer term, there were some changes and improvements to peasants' rights.

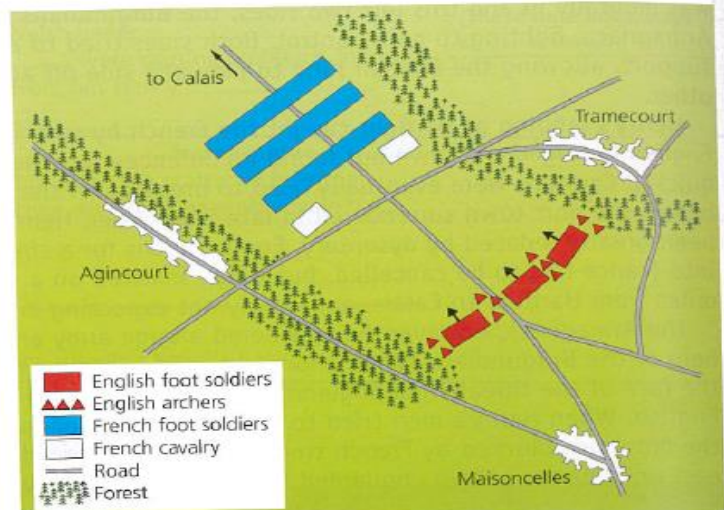


## Big Question 5

### What happened during the battle of Agincourt?

#### The Battle of Agincourt, 1415

The English army that awaited the French attack on the morning of 25 October depended upon its archers armed with the longbow. Three groups, or **battles**, of men-at-arms and knights were commanded by the King in the centre, the Duke of York on the right and Lord Camoys on the left. Groups of archers were probably placed in the gaps between the battles, while the majority of archers were massed at each end of the line and angled forward, so as to be able to fire upon any French knights attacking the centre of the line. The archers drove pointed stakes in front of them to help protect them from a French cavalry charge. The English stood in a muddy ploughed field, with woods on either side that would force the French to attack straight towards them. Henry made a speech telling his men of his right to lands in France and warning his archers that the French had promised to cut off the three fingers of their right hands if they were captured.



■ The Battle of Agincourt, 25 October 1415

The English victory at Agincourt against a numerically superior French army was a significant turning point in the Hundred Years' War; the French had around 24,000 troops compared to England's 6,000. England was once again a major power in France.

King Henry V's victory at Agincourt gave the English the momentum to regain the territory that had been lost.

Between 1415 and 1422 the English under King Henry V secured their position in France. King Henry V forced the French king, Charles VI, to name him as his heir and married Charles' daughter Catherine to strengthen England's dynastic right to the French throne.

## Big Question 6

### What was the first Wars of the Roses?

In the early 1400s members of England's royal family began arguing amongst themselves over who should be King. The argument involved two different sides of the same family – the York side and the Lancaster side. Both sides of the family were directly related to King Edward III (who ruled England between 1327 and 1377) and both felt they had good reason to rule.

A series of violent and bloody battles began between the two sides of the same family – Edward and the York's versus Henry and the Lancaster's.



■ The Wars of the Roses, 1455–85

### Big Question 7

## What happened at the Battle of Northampton 10<sup>th</sup> July 1460?

The Battle of Northampton took place between the armies of King Henry VI (Lancastrian) and Warwick (Yorkist's). It may be one of the lesser known battles of the Wars of the Roses, but it ranks alongside Towton, Tewkesbury and Bosworth in importance. It was the first time that artillery was used en-masse in England, and the only time a field fortification was assaulted during the Wars. It was also the only time a whole army was excommunicated on the battlefield in English History and in the immediate aftermath, Richard of York publically laid claim to the English throne for the first time.

Below is a modern photograph of the original battle site. Showing where the different positions were at the start of the battle.



### Big Question 8

## Why did Henry Tudor win the Battle of Bosworth?

The Battle of Bosworth was fought on August 22nd 1485. Henry Tudor had marched with his force from Milford Haven in Wales where he had landed with about 2000 men. The Battle of Bosworth is one of England's defining battles as it ended the reign of Richard III and led to Henry Tudor becoming Henry VII, the first of the Tudor monarchs. The Tudor dynasty lasted to 1603 and included the reign of two of England's most famous monarchs – Henry VIII and his daughter Elizabeth I.



This is a photograph of the skeleton of King Richard III. It was found in 2012 buried underneath a car park in Leicester!

## Glossary

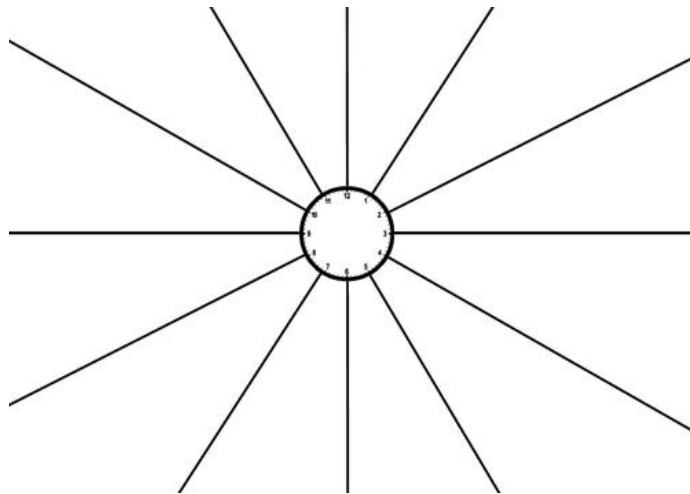
<b>Apothecary</b>	A person who prepared and sold medicines.
<b>Barber-Surgeon</b>	Men who performed surgery and dentistry as well as cutting hair.
<b>Black Death</b>	A killer disease that wiped out millions of people across Europe.
<b>Chronicle</b>	An account of important historical events most often written by a monk.
<b>Doom painting</b>	A painting in a church designed to show people images of Heaven and Hell.
<b>Hue and cry</b>	A loud cry calling for people to pursue and capture a criminal.
<b>Humours</b>	The four main liquids in the body; illness was thought to be caused by them being out of balance.
<b>Magna Carta</b>	A document setting out people's rights; the barons made King John sign it in 1215.
<b>Peasant's Revolt</b>	An uprising where peasant's, led by Wat Tyler, marched on London in 1381.
<b>Pneumonic</b>	One of two types of plague in Black death; carried in the air.
<b>Tithing</b>	A group of ten people who were responsible for each other's behaviour.
<b>Trepanning</b>	Drilling a hole in a patient's head in the belief that this would cure their headache.
<b>Trial by Ordeal</b>	A way of letting God decide whether someone is innocent or guilty; common trials were fire, water and combat.
<b>Wars of the Roses</b>	A series of battles between the English houses of York and Lancaster.

## How do I revise for end of topic assessments?

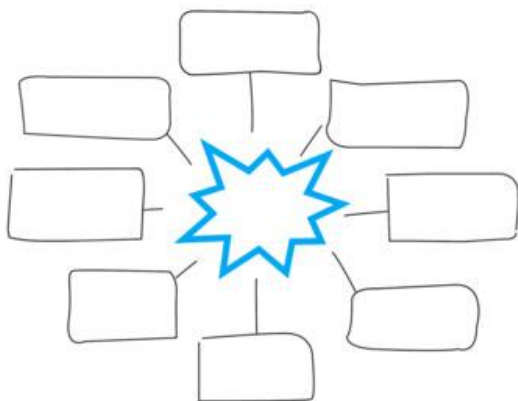


**Flashcards** – Use flashcards to practice key dates, terms and people. You could write a key date on one side, and turn it over and put the event. Alternatively, you could do match-ups, where a key person is written/drawn and then on another card what they have done is written down. You could then match-up the cards. Flashcards are also great for writing out knowledge questions on one side, and writing the answer on the other side.

### Revision clocks –



Take an A3/A4 bit of paper and divide it into 12 sections. In each section write a big question and write 3 or 4 bullet points of the key knowledge for that question in the clock. Make your clocks colourful and highlight key words/dates/people.



**Mind-maps** – Write a topic in the middle and have 5-6 branches coming off around it with the key ideas. For example, you could have a mind-map on the Battle of Hastings, and your branches could include the key events, information about the different fighting techniques and the reasons why William won.

**Brain dump** – Get a blank piece of paper, and write down everything you know about the topic being studied. Give yourself 4-5 minutes to do this. When the time is up, in a different coloured pen, use your workbook and knowledge organiser to fill in any missing details.

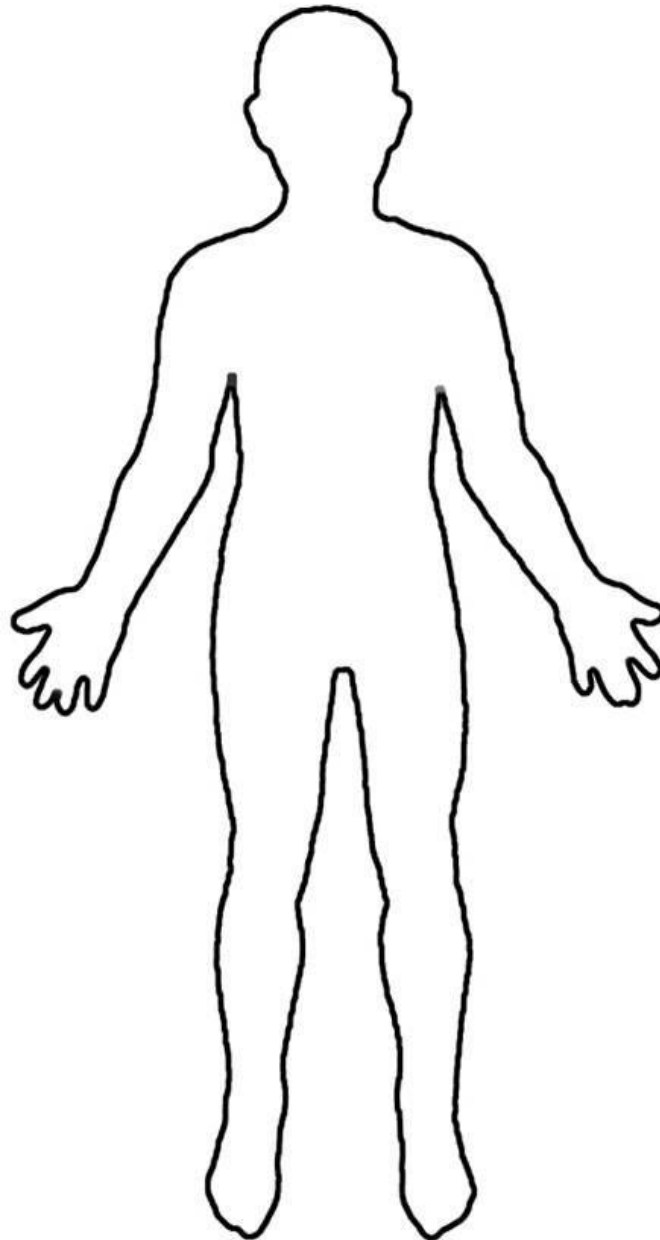
## Homework 1– Anglo-Saxon England

Read each statement and decide whether it is true or false. Correct any false statements in the space provided.

Statement	True/false	Corrected statement
King John was very successful in his wars against France		
King John falls out with the Pope in 1207.		
John develops the nickname 'Lackland' as he lost land in Greece.		
The Great Charter became known as the Magna Carta		
John clashed with the Pope over the appointment of the Archbishop of Canterbury.		
King John granted the Magna Carta at Runnymede near Windsor.		
The Magna Carta is a document that allows William to maintain control.		

## Homework 2 – Motte and Bailey Castles

Label the outline of the human below with at least 5 symptoms AND 5 causes of the Black Death.



## Homework 3 – Revision

Task – Complete a revision activity to revise for your end of unit assessment. Use page 13 of the knowledge organiser to give you some ideas of how you could revise.

## Wider Reading/Resources

BBC Bitesize King John and Magna Carta

<https://www.bbc.com/education/guides/zqgqtfr/revision/1>

The Time Traveller's Guide to Medieval England: A Handbook for Visitors to the Fourteenth Century by Ian Mortimer.

Chaucer's People: Everyday Lives in Medieval England by Lisa Picard.

Medieval England by Edmund King

A Brief History of Life in the Middle Ages( Brief Histories) by Martyn Whittock.

Measly Middle Ages (Horrible Histories) by Terry Deary

