

Modern European History  
Unit 1 - Europe: Post-Roman Empire Through The Medieval Era  
Islam/Feudalism/Norman Conquest Reading Questions

Directions: Read and annotate the handouts. Then write the answers to the questions listed below either on this sheet or on another sheet of paper. You will hand in both the annotated reading and the answers to the questions.

*The Muslim Conquest of Spain*

1. Why did the people of Andalus not take any notice of Tariq's invasion ships?

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2. Why did the Visigoth soldiers from Cordova look upon Tariq's invasion force with disdain?

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3. To what did the author attribute Tariq's success in conquering Spain?

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*Muslim Towns And Trade In North Africa*

1. In what three things did Kairouan surpass all other towns?

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2. What were the similarities between Kairouan and Sijilmasa?

3. How would you characterize the major trade items of the Maghrib?

*Peasant Life During The Time Of Charlemagne*

1. According to the excerpt, was Bodo a freeman or a serf? Explain your answer.

2. What were the obligations and rents owed by Bodo and his family?

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3. Do you agree with the author that peasant life on a manor was monotonous? Explain your answer.

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*The Table Of A Thirteenth-Century English Lord*

1. What determined seating at the lord's dinner table?

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2. What determined the way guests were served at the lord's dinner table?

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3. How do medieval table manners compare to modern table manners?

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*A Saxon View Of William The Conqueror*

1. According the writers of the *Chronicle*, what positive actions did William take during his reign?

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2. What is the “document” referred to in the second paragraph of the 1087 entry in the *Chronicle*?

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3. How do you think the writers of the *Chronicle* felt about William? Explain your answer.

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