

Middle Ages Cloze Notes

Directions: While watching the video, fill in the blanks with the information you learn.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OlySAIen3Y>

1. Citizens of the vast Roman Empire shared an official language, official religion, official currency and a common form of _____.
2. But with the fall of the _____ in 475 CE, Europe became fractured politically and culturally.
3. The Eastern Roman Empire would continue for the next thousand years as the _____, while Western Europe entered a period of repeated _____ and constant warfare.
4. Throughout the fifth century _____ invaders over ran the western half of the Roman Empire.
5. This ushered in an era of European history called the _____. It spanned the years from about 500 to 1500 CE.
6. With a nod to Latin the Middle Ages are also known as the _____. Repeated invasions and constant warfare caused a series of changes that altered the economy and government and culture. Merchants faced invasions from both land and sea and their businesses collapsed.
7. The breakdown of _____ destroyed Europe's cities as economic centers. Money became scarce.
8. With the fall of the Roman Empire, cities were _____ as centers of administration. As Roman centers of trade and government collapsed, nobles retreated to the _____ (country sides) areas.
9. Roman cities were left without strong leadership. Other city dwellers also fled to the countryside where they grew their own food. The population of Western Europe regressed to a mainly _____ lifestyle.
10. The _____ invaders who stormed Rome could not _____ or _____. Among Romans themselves the level of learning sank sharply as more and families left.
11. Few people, except _____ and other church officials were literate. Knowledge of Greek, long important in the Roman culture was almost _____. Few people could read Greek works of literature, science, and philosophy.

12. The Germanic Tribes had a rich _____ tradition of _____ and legends. But they were illiterate and had no written language.
13. As German speaking peoples mixed with the Roman population Latin _____. It was still an official language of the _____, but was no longer understood. Different dialects developed. New words and phrases became part of everyday speech. By the 800s French, _____ and other Roman based languages mirrored the continued break up of a once unified Empire.
14. At the start of the Dark Ages, the name given to the first half of the Middle Ages, small Germanic _____ replaced Roman provinces. The borders of those kingdoms changed constantly with the fortunes of war.
15. But the church as an institution survived the fall of the Roman Empire. During this time of political chaos, the Christian Church provided _____ and security.
16. Along with shifting boundaries the entire concept of government changed in Western Europe. _____ to public government and written law has unified Roman society. Family ties and personal loyalty, rather than _____ in a public state held Germanic society together.
17. Unlike Romans, Germanic peoples lived in small communities that were governed by unwritten rules and _____. Every Germanic _____ had a band of warriors who had pledged their loyalty to him in peacetime. These followers lived in their lords Hall. He gave them _____ weapons, and treasure. In battle warriors fought to the _____ at their Lord's side. They considered it a disgrace to outlive him.
18. But Germanic warriors felt no obligation to obey a king they _____. Nor would they obey an official sent to collect taxes or administer justice in the name of an emperor they hadn't even met. The focus on _____ ties made it impossible to establish orderly _____ government for large territories,
19. In the Roman province of Gaul the Germanic people called the _____ held power. Their leader was _____. According to legend, his wife had urged him to convert to her faith of _____. In 496CE, Clovis led his warriors against another Germanic army. Fearing defeat he appealed to the Christian God. The tide of the battle shifted and the Franks won. Afterward Clovis and 3,000 of his warriors asked a bishop to _____ them.

20. The Church in Rome _____ Clovis' s conversion and supported his _____ campaigns against other Germanic peoples.
21. By 511CE Clovis has _____ the Franks into one kingdom. The strategic alliance between Clovis' s Frankish Kingdom and the Church mark the start of a _____ between two powerful forces.
22. _____ helped spread Christianity. These religious travelers often risked their lives to bring their religious beliefs to other lands. Back during the 300s and 400s they worked among the Germanic and Celtic groups that bordered the Roman Empire. In Southern Europe, the fear of coastal attacked by _____ also spurred many people to become Christians. In the 600s, to adapt to rural conditions, the church built religious communities called _____. There Christian men called _____ gave up their private possessions and devoted their lives to serving God.
23. Women who followed this way of life were called _____, and lived in convents.
24. Monks and nuns devoted their lives to _____ and good works, but they' re not part of the hierarchy of church officials, like priests.
25. Monasteries also became Europe' s best _____ communities. Monks opened schools, maintained libraries, and copied books. Monks acted as _____ making beautiful copies of religious writings, decorated with ornate letters and brilliant pictures. These _____ preserved at least a part of Rome' s intellectual heritage. They were called manuscripts because they were written and copied by hand-manually.
26. In 590 CE Gregory I also called Gregory the Great became _____. As head of the Church of Rome, Gregory broadened the authority of the _____, or the Pope' s office, beyond its spiritual role. Under Gregory the papacy also became a secular, or worldly, power involved in _____.
27. The Pope' s palace was the center of Roman government. Gregory used Church revenues (money) to raise armies, repair roads, and help the poor. According to Gregory the region from Italy to England, and from Spain to Germany fell under his _____.
28. This idea of a churchly kingdom, ruled by _____ would be a central theme of the Middle Ages.

29. Meanwhile secular rulers expanded their kingdoms. When the Franks first Christian King Clovis died in 511 he had extended Frankish rule over most of what is now _____ . By 700 CE an official known as the majordomo or _____ would become the most powerful person in the Frankish Kingdom. Officially he was in charge of the royal household and estates. Unofficially he had led _____ and made policy, in effect he _____ the kingdom.
30. The Mayor of the Palace in 719 CE, Charles Martel, held more power than the King. Charles Martel extended the Franks reign to the north, south, and east. He also defeated the _____. The moors was the name given to the Berbers, the Muslim North Africans that were expanding into Europe. The historic Battle of Tours in _____ stopped the expansion of the Muslim empire. This battle is highly significant.
31. Charles Martel's victory made him a Christian hero and he was known from then on as Charles "The _____" Martel.
32. At his death Charles Martel passed on his power to his son _____ the Short. Pepin wanted to be King, not just the majordomo. He shrewdly cooperated with the _____.
33. On behalf of the Church, Pepin agreed to fight the Lombards, who had invaded central Italy and threatened Rome. In exchange the Pope anointed Pepin King "By the grace of _____." Thus began the _____ dynasty, the family that would rule the Franks from 751 to 987CE.
34. Pepin the short died in 768. He left a greatly strengthened Frankish Kingdom to his sons.
35. Charles, who became known as Charlemagne, or _____, ruled the Kingdom.
36. Charlemagne built an _____ greater than any known since ancient Rome. Each summer he led armies against enemies that surrounded his kingdom. He fought _____ in Spain, and tribes from other _____. He conquered new lands to both the south and the east.
37. Through these conquests, Charlemagne spread _____ and reunited Western Europe for the first time since the Roman Empire. By 800 Charlemagne's empire was larger than the Byzantine Empire. He had become the most powerful King in Western Europe.

38. In 800 CE, Charlemagne traveled to Rome to crush an unruly mob that attacked the _____. In gratitude Pope Leo III surprised Charlemagne on _____ Day 800 CE and crowned him _____.
39. This coronation was historic. A _____ had claimed the political right to conger the title Roman Emperor on a European King. This event signaled the _____ of Germanic power and the _____.
40. Charlemagne sent out Royal agents to make sure that the power landowners called _____ governed their counties justly. Charlemagne regularly visited every part of his kingdom. He also kept a close watch on the management of his huge estates, the source of Carolingian wealth and power.
41. One of Charlemagne's greatest accomplishments was the encouragement of _____ which brought a little light to the Dark Ages. He surrounded himself with English, German, Italian, and Spanish scholars. For his many sons and daughters and other children of the court Charlemagne opened a palace _____. He also ordered monasteries to open schools to train future monks and priests and even tried to learn how to read.
42. A year before Charlemagne died in 814 CE he crowned his only surviving son, Louis the Pious, Emperor. Louis was an ineffective ruler. He left the kingdom to his ___ sons, who fought for power amongst themselves. In 843, the brothers signed the Treaty of Verdun, dividing the empire in kingdoms. As a result _____ kings lost power and central authority broke down. The lack of strong rulers led to a new system of governing and landholding called Feudalism.