

Medieval Towns - "What's Their Story?"

Historical Thinking Skill - Comprehension

Read, analyze, and interpret sources critically to gain perspectives of events or concepts.

Please use the source collections on Google Classroom to answer the questions below.

Source Collection 1

Source 1	1. According to this diagram, to which social class did most people belong? 2. In your opinion, was there an easy way for peasants to move up the social ladder? Explain your answer - make an inference based on your background knowledge and what you see in this diagram.
Source 2	1. What type of clothing are the peasants wearing? Describe it. 2. What type of tools were used for farming? 3. Who participated in the work of farming the land?
Source 3	1. What was the most important food in a peasant's diet? 2. Do you think that peasants had enough to eat to sustain all of the energy that they burned? Why or why not? Please cite text evidence to support your answer.
Source 4	1. Were animals important to peasants? Cite evidence from this picture to support your claim.

Source Collection 2

Source 1	1. What are 4 observations you can make about town life during the Middle Ages from this picture? (Be specific)
Source 2	1. What types of goods were made and sold in towns? Please cite the letter of the picture where you find your answer. 2. Notice the shop signs in picture C. Why were shops' signs pictures instead of words?
Source 3	1. What caused medieval towns to grow and develop in the late Middle Ages? 2. What was the relationship between free men in towns and their lords?

Based on what you observed from each source collection, analyze the differences between a peasant's life on a manor vs. a peasant's life in a town. Answer the prompt below in at least 4 lines: **How did the environment of a Medieval town encourage social change? What were the different opportunities that towns offered residents that manor life did not? Did feudalism look different in towns than on manors?**

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