

#### **TASK 4. TALE: The Young Peasant and the Feudal Society**

Read the following text about the feudal society and answer the questions:

##### **The Young Peasant and the Feudal Society**

In a distant kingdom, nestled among green hills and guarded by a majestic castle, lived a young peasant named Miguel. His village, surrounded by the serenity of nature, was his home and the only world he knew.

One day, driven by curiosity, Miguel decided to venture beyond the limits of his village. With determined steps, he walked along dusty paths and crossed dense forests until he arrived at a town where a magnificent Gothic church stood tall. There, Miguel had the privilege of meeting Father Francisco, a learned priest who taught both the children of nobles and the children of peasants.

Fascinated, Miguel listened closely to Father Francisco's tales about the olden times of feudal society. He was captivated by stories of the nobles, who, in their majesty, lived in the castle and ruled the lands. They were both protectors and collectors of tributes from peasants in exchange for safety and plots to farm.

Later, Father Francisco spoke about the knights, brave warriors who pledged loyalty to the nobles and defended the kingdom in times of danger. Miguel dreamed of one day wielding a sword and proving his bravery like those knights.

But what left Miguel most amazed was the importance of peasants, like himself, in the fabric of feudal society. They were the ones who tilled the fields, tirelessly cultivating the food that nourished everyone. Though lacking noble titles and riches, they were the heartbeat of society, sustaining all with their hard work.

After some time, Miguel returned to his village with a heart full of wisdom. He had learned that every social class played an essential role in feudal society. The nobles provided protection, the knights defended the kingdom, and the peasants fed everyone.

The concept of fiefs also became etched in his mind as a key part of that society. He learned about the different components of a fief: the castle, symbolizing the noble's authority, surrounded by farmland where the peasants worked tirelessly. This intricate relationship of dependence and protection among the different social classes was like the thread that held the balance of the feudal world together.

Over the years, Miguel became a prominent figure in his community, always remembering Father Francisco's teachings. Thus, the village prospered, proving that in feudal society, harmony between the different social groups and understanding the system of fiefs were crucial for collective well-being.

**Questions:**

1. What motivated Miguel to venture beyond his village?
2. Who was Father Francisco, and what teachings did he share with Miguel?
3. What role did nobles play in feudal society, and what was their relationship with peasants?
4. What was the knights' role in feudal society, and what dreams did Miguel have regarding them?
5. Explain the importance of peasants in feudal society and how their work is described in the story.