WESTERN CIVILIZATION · STUDY GUIDE

Exam 3 Study Guide

This guide covers the five centuries after Rome. Chapter 5 shows one Mediterranean world becoming three: a Greek-speaking Roman empire in Constantinople, the Islamic caliphates, and the Latin kingdoms of the West. Chapter 6 follows the Latin West as better farming, towns and money turn it into a crowded, confident and sometimes cruel society. Read the "what to know" paragraphs, study the diagram, then work each case with the steps covered. Finish with the self-tests and the cram sheet.

WHAT THIS GUIDE COVERS

- Chapter 5 · Justinian (Nika, Hagia Sophia, the Corpus, the Gothic War, the plague), how Byzantium survived (themes, Greek fire, iconoclasm), Muhammad and the Hijra, succession and the Sunni and Shia split, why the conquests were fast, Umayyads and Abbasids, the translation movement, Clovis, Benedict and the monasteries, Charlemagne, Verdun and the debate over feudalism.
- Chapter 6 · the farming boom (climate, heavy plow, horse collar, three fields, mills), manors, serfdom and the feudalism debate, towns, guilds and credit, the Investiture Controversy, England, France and the Empire, the crusades and the persecuting turn, universities and scholasticism, friars, and Gothic building.

CHAPTER 5

Byzantium, Islam and the Early Middle Ages

Read it in full: **Chapter 5 in the textbook**. Practice it in the lab: **The Empire That Shrank to Survive** and **Fast Sword, Slow Faith**.

What to know

Between about 500 and 1000 the Mediterranean world became three: a Greek-speaking Roman empire ruled from Constantinople, an Islamic world from the Atlantic to the Indus, and Latin kingdoms in the West. They traded, raided and copied one another. Avoid the old story in which one civilization declined while the others were background.

Justinian (527 to 565) believed the lost West could be won back. The Nika riots of 532 nearly toppled him; he rebuilt Hagia Sophia in under six years. Belisarius took Vandal Africa in 533 to 534, but the Gothic War in Italy (535 to 554) took nineteen years and wrecked the peninsula, and the Lombards took most of it from 568. His lasting work was law: the **Corpus Juris Civilis** (Codex, Digest, Institutes, Novellae), later rediscovered at Bologna. The plague of 541, caused by Yersinia pestis, returned in waves for two centuries; how many it killed is debated.

No one in Constantinople called themselves Byzantine; they were Rhomaioi, Romans, and the label dates from 1557. After the Roman and Persian war of 602 to 628 and the Arab conquests, the empire shrank to Anatolia, the Aegean and parts of the Balkans and Italy. It survived by settling soldiers on land in **themes** under single commanders (which most specialists now think developed gradually), by the Theodosian walls and by **Greek fire**. Arab assaults failed, including the siege of 717 to 718. **Iconoclasm** (from about 726, ended 843) strained ties with Rome. Cyril and Methodius' mission (863) led to the Cyrillic script, and the Rus' converted around 988.

Muhammad, born in Mecca around 570, began receiving revelations around 610, collected as the **Quran**, which Muslims understand as God's own speech. In 622 he and his followers moved to Medina. This **Hijra** is year 1 of the Islamic calendar because it founded a self-governing community, the **umma**, bound by belief rather than blood. He entered Mecca in 630 and died in 632. The Five Pillars are a later systematization; they synchronize believers across great distances.

Muhammad left no agreed successor. Most chose Abu Bakr as **caliph**; a minority backed Ali and his line. The first four (Rashidun) caliphs had troubled reigns: Uthman fixed the Quran's text, Ali's rule saw the first civil war, and in 680 Ali's son Husayn was killed at **Karbala**, which turned a political dispute into the **Sunni and Shia** division. Arab armies won at Yarmuk (636), took Persia and Egypt and reached from Spain to the Indus within a century. Four structural reasons: two exhausted empires, plague, mobility, and terms that taxed (the jizya on dhimmi subjects) rather than forced conversion. Conversion to Muslim majorities took until the ninth to eleventh centuries.

The **Umayyads** (661 to 750) ruled from Damascus with Roman and Persian officials; Abd al-Malik made Arabic official and built the Dome of the Rock (691 to 692). The **Abbasids** (from 750) founded Baghdad in 762 and ran a Persian-style court with a vizier. The **translation**

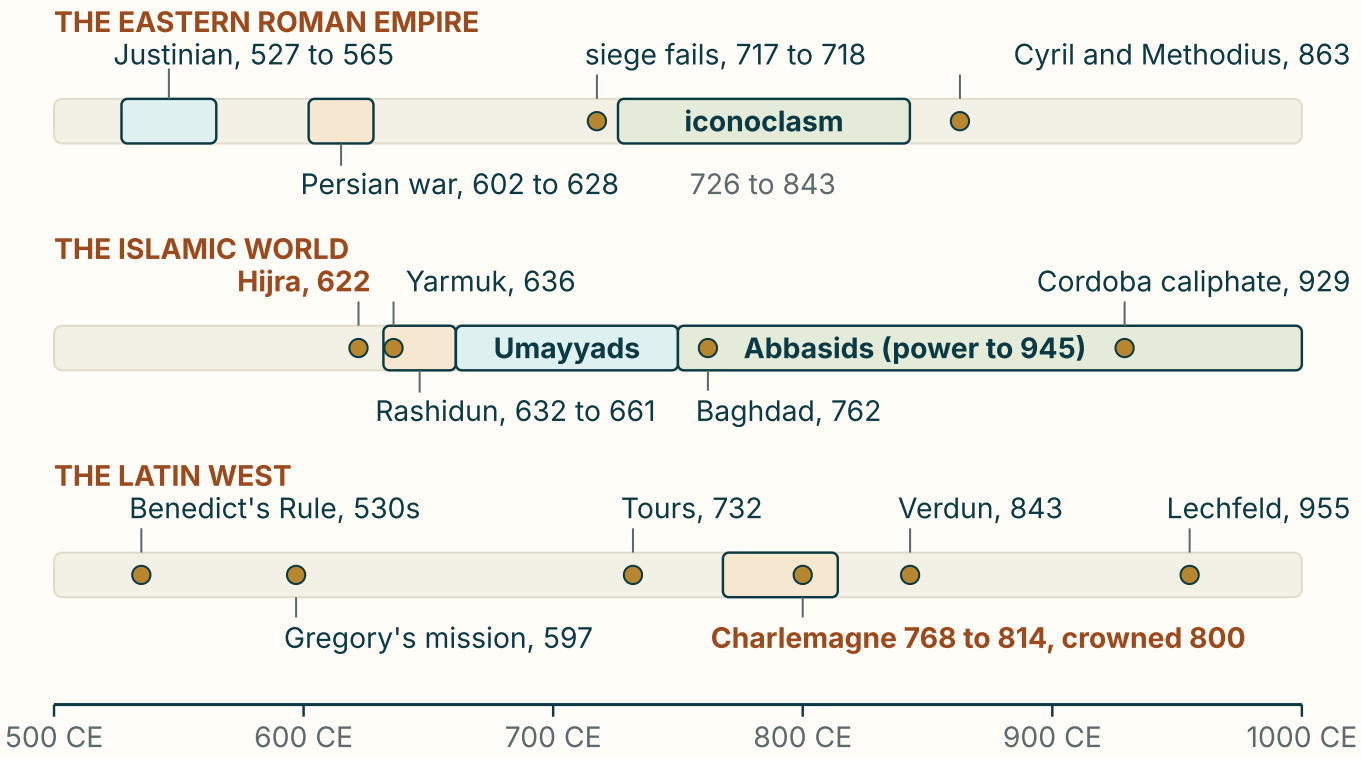
movement put Greek science into Arabic, often through Syriac and Christian scholars such as Hunayn ibn Ishaq. Then came original work: al-Khwarizmi (algebra), al-Razi (smallpox and measles), Ibn Sina (Canon of Medicine), Ibn al-Haytham (optics by experiment). The right verb is advanced, not preserved. Cordoba became a caliphate in 929; the Fatimids founded Cairo; after 945 the Baghdad caliph was a figurehead.

In the Latin West the tax system, standing army and bulk trade ended; pottery finds show it, with collapse worst in Britain. Most Germanic kings were Arian Christians, at odds with Catholic subjects. **Clovis** chose Catholic baptism (about 496 or 508), so the Gallo-Roman bishops could work with him, and the Frankish kingdom lasted. Pippin III became king in 751 with papal backing and gave central Italy to the pope, the start of the Papal States. **Benedict's Rule** made reading mandatory, so monasteries copied books; Irish monks, Gregory the Great's mission of 597, Whitby (664) and Bede (AD dating) followed. Monks saved and also selected: of Livy's 142 books, 35 survive.

Charlemagne (768 to 814) campaigned almost every year, including a brutal thirty-two-year war on the Saxons, and was crowned emperor by Pope Leo III on Christmas Day 800. He governed with counts, paired **missi dominici** and capitularies, set 240 pennies to the pound, and ordered schools. **Caroline minuscule**, a clear script with spaces and lower case, is the ancestor of the letters you read now. The **Treaty of Verdun** (843) split the empire three ways. Vikings (Lindisfarne 793; Normandy granted 911), Magyars (beaten at the Lechfeld, 955) and Muslim fleets pushed power to local lords with castles. The tidy pyramid called feudalism is now disputed (Brown, Reynolds); treat it as a label for a debate.

LOCK THESE IN

- Justinian's reconquest failed to last; his Corpus Juris Civilis lasted for centuries.
- Byzantines called themselves Romans; themes, walls and Greek fire kept the empire alive.
- Hijra 622 is year 1 because it founded a self-governing community, the umma.
- Sunni and Shia began as a succession dispute; Karbala (680) made it a religious identity.
- The conquests were fast militarily and slow religiously: they taxed rather than converted.
- Abbasid Baghdad (762): translation, then original science. Advanced, not preserved.
- Clovis chose Catholic, not Arian, Christianity, so the bishops backed the Franks.
- Charlemagne crowned 800; Verdun 843; feudalism is a contested label.



One inheritance, three answers. The three worlds ran side by side. The Abbasid golden age and the eastern empire's survival overlap with the Latin West's poorest centuries and Charlemagne's brief empire.

Key terms and comparisons

Feature	Umayyad (661 to 750)	Abbasid (750 to 1258; real power to 945)
Capital	Damascus, Mediterranean and Roman-facing	Baghdad, Mesopotamian and Persian-facing
Ruling elite	Arab tribal aristocracy; converts second-class	Cosmopolitan service class; convert status equalized
Style of rule	Accessible tribal chief with Byzantine machinery	Screened sacral monarch with a vizier
Signature monument	Dome of the Rock; Great Mosque of Damascus	Round City of Baghdad; Samarra
Cultural output	Arabic coinage and administration	Translation movement; algebra, optics, medicine
Fatal weakness	Arab versus convert resentment; overextension	Provincial secession; Turkish slave soldiers

Terms to know

Term	Meaning
Theme (thema)	Byzantine district where soldiers held land for service
Iconoclasm	Campaign against religious images, ended 843
Hijra	Move from Mecca to Medina in 622; year 1
Umma	Community defined by faith, not tribe
Dhimmi and jizya	Protected non-Muslims and the poll tax they paid
Missi dominici	Paired lay and clerical inspectors of the counts
Caroline minuscule	Clear lower-case script, ancestor of modern type
Fief	Land or revenue held in return for service

Worked cases

WORKED CASE 1 · WHY THE CONQUESTS WERE SO FAST

A student writes that the Arab conquests succeeded because of religious zeal alone. Build a fuller answer.

STEP 1 · KEEP WHAT IS RIGHT

Zeal was real and the umma gave a new kind of unity.

STEP 2 · EXHAUSTED EMPIRES

Rome and Persia had just spent everything in the war of 602 to 628 and had no reserves.

STEP 3 · PLAGUE AND MOBILITY

Plague thinned Mediterranean populations; desert mobility beat heavy imperial armies.

STEP 4 · THE TERMS

No forced conversion, local officials kept, and a jizya often lighter than old imperial taxes, especially for Miaphysite Christians Constantinople had persecuted.

CONCLUSION

Fast sword, slow faith: military success in a decade, Muslim majorities only by the ninth to eleventh centuries.

WORKED CASE 2 · WHAT SURVIVED OF LIVY, AND WHY

Livy wrote 142 books of Roman history. 35 survive. What share is that, and what does it teach about monasteries?

STEP 1 · DIVIDE

35 ÷ 142 = 0.246, so about **24.6 percent**, roughly one book in four.

STEP 2 · WHY THE LOSS

Parchment was costly; monks copied what their community judged worth the price of a calf's skin.

STEP 3 · THE OTHER SIDE

Nearly every Latin text we have survives because a monk copied it.

CONCLUSION

Monasteries saved and selected. Both statements are true at once.

WORKED CASE 3 · WHY CLOVIS'S BAPTISM MATTERED

Several Germanic kingdoms followed Rome in the West. Explain why the Frankish one lasted.

STEP 1 · THE RELIGIOUS MAP

Most Germanic rulers were Arian; their Catholic subjects saw them as heretics.

STEP 2 · THE ADMINISTRATORS

The surviving Roman governing class in Gaul was the Catholic bishops.

STEP 3 · THE CHOICE

Clovis accepted Catholic baptism (about 496 or 508), so the bishops could govern with him.

STEP 4 · THE RESULT

He beat the Visigoths at Vouillé in 507; Vandals, Ostrogoths and Burgundians did not last.

CONCLUSION

Religion was a governing tool: the right creed bought the cooperation of the people who still knew how to run things.

TRAPS PEOPLE FALL INTO

- **Calling the eastern empire Byzantine as its own name.** They called themselves Romans; the label dates from 1557.
- **Crediting Heraclius with inventing the themes in one stroke.** Most specialists see them developing gradually.
- **Saying the Arab conquests forced conversion.** They taxed non-Muslims; majorities came centuries later.
- **Listing the Five Pillars as Islam's starting point.** They are a later systematization of Quranic practice.
- **Calling Islamic scholars mere preservers.** Ibn al-Haytham, al-Razi and al-Khwarizmi advanced the field.
- **Calling Tours and Poitiers the salvation of Christendom.** That is Gibbon's inflation; scholars see a checked raid.
- **Drawing feudalism as a neat pyramid.** The pyramid is a later construct; arrangements were local and negotiated.
- **Calling the Carolingian Renaissance a broad flowering.** It was narrow and clerical, but the biggest textual rescue in European history.

Chapter 5 self-test · ten items

1. What was Justinian's most durable achievement?

A. The conversion of the Persian king Khosrow II
B. The lasting reconquest of Italy from the Goths
C. The Corpus Juris Civilis, his codified Roman law
D. The defeat of the Lombards in northern Italy

C. The Corpus Juris Civilis, his codified Roman law The Gothic War wrecked Italy and the Lombards took most of it by 568; the Corpus became the root of civil law.

2. What did the Byzantines call themselves?

A. Byzantines
B. Rhomaioi, Romans
C. Hellenes, Greeks
D. Franks

B. Rhomaioi, Romans The term Byzantine was coined by Hieronymus Wolf in 1557.

3. What was the theme system?

A. Districts where soldiers held land and one commander ruled
B. A naval code for using Greek fire at sea
C. A tax on church land used to pay foreign mercenaries for the army
D. A council of bishops that advised the emperor

A. Districts where soldiers held land and one commander ruled With Egypt and Syria gone, the empire could not pay an army in cash, so it settled troops on the land.

4. Why does the Islamic calendar begin with the Hijra?

A. It marks the first revelation in the cave
B. It marks the conquest of Mecca in 630
C. It marks the founding of a self-governing community
D. It marks the birth of the Prophet Muhammad in Mecca around 570

C. It marks the founding of a self-governing community In Medina from 622 the believers had their own law, treaties, defense and taxes.

5. Which event turned the succession dispute into a lasting religious division?

A. The Hijra to Medina in 622
B. The battle of Yarmuk in 636
C. The founding of Baghdad by the Abbasids in 762
D. The killing of Husayn at Karbala in 680

D. The killing of Husayn at Karbala in 680 Husayn's martyrdom became the emotional center of Shia devotion.

6. Which is one structural reason the Arab conquests moved so fast?

A. The conquerors forced every subject to convert
B. Persian armies joined the Arabs from the start
C. Rome and Persia had exhausted each other in war
D. Both empires had just made peace with Arabia

C. Rome and Persia had exhausted each other in war The war of 602 to 628 left neither empire with reserves.

7. What changed when the Abbasids replaced the Umayyads?

A. The caliph became an elected tribal chief again
B. Power moved to Baghdad and a cosmopolitan service class
C. Greek became the language of the whole government
D. Power moved to Cordoba under a Shia dynasty

B. Power moved to Baghdad and a cosmopolitan service class Baghdad, founded 762, had a Persian-style court and opened office to Persians, Christians and converts.

8. Why did the Frankish kingdom outlast other Germanic kingdoms?

A. The Franks refused to become Christian at all
B. Clovis took Catholic baptism and worked with the bishops
C. The pope crowned Clovis as western emperor
D. Clovis took Arian baptism and won the Goths as his close allies

B. Clovis took Catholic baptism and worked with the bishops Catholic baptism let the Gallo-Roman bishops, the surviving administrators, govern with him.

9. What is Caroline minuscule?

A. A monastic rule written for Charlemagne's court
B. A Frankish law code written in the vernacular
C. A small coin worth one penny of the pound
D. A clear script with spaces and lower-case letters

D. A clear script with spaces and lower-case letters Humanists later mistook it for ancient Roman writing and revived it; modern type descends from it.

10. What did the Treaty of Verdun (843) do?

A. Split the Carolingian empire into three kingdoms
B. Ended the war between Rome and the Lombards
C. Crowned Charlemagne emperor in Saint Peter's
D. Gave Normandy to the Viking leader Rollo

A. Split the Carolingian empire into three kingdoms West Francia, East Francia and a contested middle strip emerged under Frankish inheritance custom.

CHAPTER 6

The High Middle Ages

Read it in full: **Chapter 6 in the textbook**. Practice it in the lab: **The Calorie Engine** and **Splitting the Bishop**.

What to know

From about 1000 to 1300 western Europe went from a poor periphery to a crowded, inventive and aggressive society. Population may have doubled. Out of that surplus came chartered towns, juries, universities, parliaments, banks and a papacy that claimed authority over kings. It also produced the crusades and a legal machine for persecuting Jews and heretics. Confidence and cruelty grew from the same root.

The engine was material. The **Medieval Warm Period** (about 950 to 1250) lengthened growing seasons in the North Atlantic region; it was regionally uneven and does not show that modern warming is nothing new. The raids ended. The **heavy plow** opened the wet northern clays but needed six or eight oxen, so villages shared teams and strip fields. The rigid horse collar let horses pull without choking. The **three-field system** cut fallow from one half to one third and added legumes. Domesday Book (1086) records about 6,000 mills. Europe grew from about 35 to 40 million (1000) to 70 to 80 million (1300); by about 1270 the frontier of good land had closed.

Vassalage, homage, fealty and the fief are real medieval words, but the tidy pyramid called **feudalism** was built later. Elizabeth Brown (1974) and Susan Reynolds (1994) showed that

practice varied by region and much land was held outright. The castle and the mounted warrior, though, were everywhere. A **serf** is not a slave: a serf was tied to land and owed labor, but could not be sold apart from the land, held property and had standing in the manor court.

The **manor** split land into the lord's demesne and tenant holdings. Tenants paid in labor, kind and, more and more, cash, and owed the banalités (the lord's mill, oven and winepress). Custom bound lord and peasant alike, and peasants bargained, fled and revolted. The Great Famine of 1315 to 1317 killed perhaps a tenth of northern Europe.

Towns revived from the eleventh century and bought **charters** giving freedom, markets, courts and their own taxes; in many places a serf who lived a year and a day in a chartered town became free. **Guilds** regulated crafts. Italian and Flemish **communes** governed themselves; the Lombard League beat Barbarossa at Legnano (1176). The Champagne fairs linked Italy and Flanders, and merchants used the bill of exchange, the commenda, double-entry books and new gold coins (florin 1252, ducat 1284).

Church reform began at Cluny (about 910). Reformers attacked simony, clerical marriage and **lay investiture**. Gregory VII's Dictatus Papae (1075) claimed the pope could depose emperors. He deposed Henry IV, who stood in the snow at **Canossa** in 1077 to win absolution and break the princes' coalition. The **Concordat of Worms** (1122) split the bishop's spiritual office from his lands. It settled a procedure, not the principle, and left authority permanently divided in the West.

In England, William won at Hastings (1066) and ordered **Domesday Book** (1086) to tax precisely. **Henry II** (1154 to 1189) sent itinerant justices, offered writs and used juries; litigants chose royal justice, creating the **common law**. Becket was murdered in 1170. In 1215 barons forced John to seal **Magna Carta**, whose clauses 39 and 40 put the king under the law. The Capetians built France with heirs and salaried officials; Philip II won at Bouvines (1214). The Holy Roman Empire, elective and fixed on Italy, fragmented after Frederick II. Innocent III's Fourth Lateran Council (1215) required yearly confession, ended clerical part in ordeals and ordered distinguishing dress for Jews and Muslims.

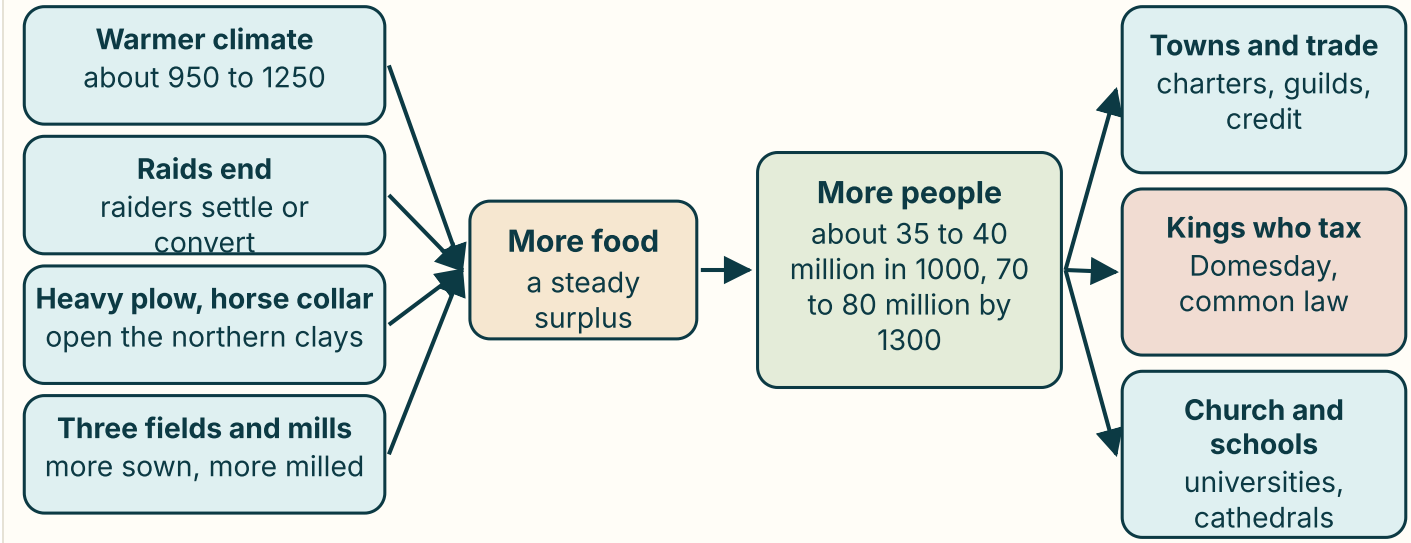
Urban II preached the **First Crusade** at Clermont (1095), offering remission of penance. Crusaders massacred Rhineland Jews in 1096 and took Jerusalem with a massacre in 1099.

Saladin won at Hattin and retook Jerusalem in 1187. The Fourth Crusade sacked Constantinople in 1204. Acre fell in 1291. In Spain, Toledo fell in 1085 and Las Navas de Tolosa (1212) broke the Almohads. The Albigensian Crusade (1209 to 1229) crushed the Cathars, inquisitors followed, and Jews were expelled from England (1290). R. I. Moore calls this a persecuting society.

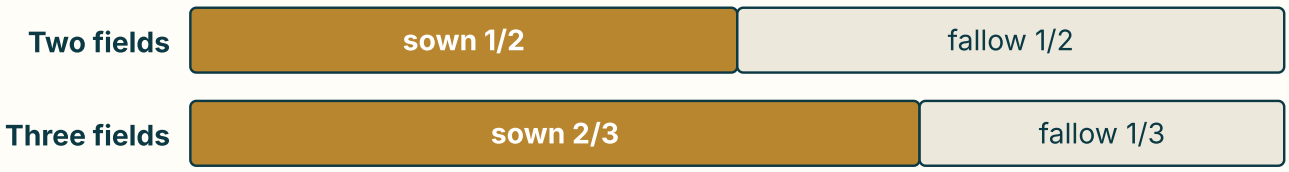
The **university** began as a guild (universitas): students ran Bologna, masters ran Paris. The full Aristotle arrived via Toledo and Sicily, with Ibn Sina and Ibn Rushd. **Scholasticism** resolved contradictions by distinction: Abelard's Sic et Non, Gratian's Decretum, Lombard's Sentences, and Aquinas's Summa, which held that reason and revelation cannot truly conflict. Cistercians, then Franciscan and Dominican friars, reshaped religious life. **Gothic** building (Saint-Denis, 1144) used the pointed arch, ribbed vault and flying buttress to turn walls into glass. Vernacular writing grew, leading to Dante.

LOCK THESE IN

- Climate, peace and ordinary tools (plow, collar, three fields, mills) made the surplus.
- Three fields: fallow falls from one half to one third, so sown land rises by a third.
- Serf is not slave: tied to land, but not sold apart from it, with property and court standing.
- Town air makes you free: a year and a day in a chartered town.
- Canossa 1077; Concordat of Worms 1122 settled procedure, not principle.
- Henry II's writs, justices and juries made the common law; Magna Carta 1215 put the king under law.
- Crusades: 1095 Clermont, 1099 Jerusalem, 1187 Hattin, 1204 Constantinople, 1291 Acre.
- Universities were guilds; scholasticism resolves contradictions; Gothic turns walls into glass.



Share of arable sown each year, drawn to scale



Two thirds is a third more than one half: of 600 acres, 300 are sown under two fields and 400 under three.

Surplus first, everything else after. Ordinary tools plus good weather and peace fed the towns, states and schools of the High Middle Ages. The bars show why the three-field rotation mattered: a third more land in crop.

Key terms and comparisons

Feature	England	France	Holy Roman Empire
Succession	Hereditary, often disputed	Hereditary; direct male line 987 to 1328	Elective; princes choose
Key instrument	Writs, itinerant justices, juries	Salaried baillis; confiscation	Bishops; Italian revenue
Landmark	Domesday 1086; Magna Carta 1215	Bouvines 1214; Louis IX's courts	Worms 1122; Melfi 1231
With the papacy	Becket 1170; John submits 1213	Cooperative, then hostile under Philip IV	Constant conflict
By 1300	Centralized law; tax by consent	Strongest monarchy in Europe	Fragmented into princely lands

Terms and tools

Term	Meaning
Three-field system	Winter grain, spring crop and fallow in rotation
Banalités	Lord's monopolies on mill, oven and winepress
Bill of exchange	Order to pay in another city and currency
Commenda	Investor funds a voyage; traveling partner runs it
Simony	Buying or selling church office
Lay investiture	A ruler giving a bishop his ring and staff
Scholasticism	Resolving contradictions between authorities by distinction
Universitas	A guild or corporation of persons

Worked cases

WORKED CASE 1 · THE ARITHMETIC OF THE THREE-FIELD SYSTEM

A village has 600 acres of arable. How much is sown each year under two fields and under three fields?

STEP 1 · TWO FIELDS

Half lies fallow, so 600 × 1/2 = **300 acres** sown.

STEP 2 · THREE FIELDS

One third lies fallow, so 600 × 2/3 = **400 acres** sown.

STEP 3 · THE GAIN

400 − 300 = 100 acres; 100 ÷ 300 = 33.3 percent more land in crop.

STEP 4 · THE BONUS

The spring legumes fix nitrogen and add protein, so the land and the diet both improve.

CHECK IT A SECOND WAY

Two thirds divided by one half is 4/3, which is a third more.

WORKED CASE 2 · READING CANOSSA TACTICALLY

"Going to Canossa" means total humiliation. Was it a defeat for Henry IV in 1077?

STEP 1 · THE THREAT

German princes would elect another king if Henry were not absolved within a year.

STEP 2 · THE MOVE

He stood three days in the snow as a penitent; a priest could hardly refuse absolution.

STEP 3 · THE SHORT RUN

Absolved, he broke the princes' coalition and later drove Gregory from Rome.

STEP 4 · THE LONG RUN

A pope had deposed an emperor, and an emperor had knelt.

CONCLUSION

A tactical win and a symbolic loss. Worms (1122) later split office from lands without settling who was supreme.

WORKED CASE 3 · HOW THE COMMON LAW WAS MADE

Explain how Henry II created a body of law without passing a code.

STEP 1 · SUPPLY

Royal justices rode regular circuits and standard written writs moved land cases into the king's court.

STEP 2 · THE METHOD

Sworn panels of neighbors, the ancestor of the jury, answered questions of fact.

STEP 3 · DEMAND

Royal justice was faster, more predictable and less bloody than ordeal or battle, so free men chose it.

STEP 4 · CUSTOM

Choice became habit, and decisions became precedent.

CONCLUSION

Judge-made law built by consumer choice, now the base of law in England, the United States, Canada, Australia and India.

TRAPS PEOPLE FALL INTO

- **Saying the Medieval Warm Period shows modern warming is natural.** It was regionally uneven and below present global levels.
- **Equating serfs with slaves.** Serfs held property and had court standing; slaves were property.
- **Calling Canossa a clean defeat for Henry.** He won the round; the symbolic precedent was the loss.
- **Saying Worms settled who was supreme.** It settled a procedure, not the principle.
- **Treating Magna Carta as democracy in 1215.** Most clauses are baronial grievances; its icon status grew later.
- **Crediting the crusades with bringing algebra and spices.** Trade and learning ran through Italy, Spain and Sicily.
- **Calling the crusades a clash of civilizations.** Crusaders allied with Muslims and sacked Christian Constantinople.
- **Saying the medieval Church suppressed science.** Universities taught Aristotle's natural philosophy at their core.

Chapter 6 self-test · ten items

1. Why did the heavy plow matter most in northern Europe?

A. It needed no animals because it ran on water
B. It worked best on the dry soils of Italy and Spain
C. It could turn the wet, heavy clay soils of the north
D. It was light enough for one person to pull alone

C. It could turn the wet, heavy clay soils of the north The scratch plow suits light, dry soils. The mouldboard plow opened fertile northern clays but needed large ox teams.

2. How did the three-field system raise output?

A. It removed the need for any fallow at all
B. It doubled the size of each peasant family's holding of land
C. It replaced grain with grapes on most farms
D. It cut fallow from one half to one third of the land

D. It cut fallow from one half to one third of the land Sown land rose from a half to two thirds, about a third more, and legumes enriched the soil.

3. Which is a real difference between a serf and a slave?

A. A serf held property and could not be sold apart from land
B. A serf could leave the manor freely at any time without a fee
C. A serf owed no labor of any kind to the lord
D. A serf had no family that the law recognized

A. A serf held property and could not be sold apart from land Serfdom was heavy, hereditary constraint, not ownership of a person.

4. What did "town air makes you free" refer to?

A. A serf freed after a year and a day in a chartered town
B. A guild rule freeing apprentices after seven years
C. A law freeing every peasant who paid a cash rent
D. A papal order freeing serfs who joined a crusade

A. A serf freed after a year and a day in a chartered town Many charters made a resident free if not reclaimed within a year and a day.

5. What did the bill of exchange allow merchants to do?

A. Sell shares in a guild to outsiders
B. Borrow from the pope at a fixed rate
C. Avoid all of the tolls on the roads to the Champagne fairs
D. Move value between cities without carrying coin

D. Move value between cities without carrying coin A written order to pay in another city and currency dodged bandits and, legally, the usury ban.

6. What was the central issue of the Investiture Controversy?

A. Whether monks could own land and mills
B. Whether Jerusalem should be retaken by force
C. Whether kings or the Church installed bishops
D. Whether the Bible could be read in vernacular

C. Whether kings or the Church installed bishops Bishops were both churchmen and great landholders and royal officials.

7. What did the Concordat of Worms (1122) do?

A. Made the pope the feudal lord of England
B. Separated a bishop's spiritual office from his lands
C. Gave the emperor the right to choose every pope
D. Abolished the College of Cardinals in Rome

B. Separated a bishop's spiritual office from his lands The emperor gave up ring and staff; the bishop received his secular lands and rights from the ruler.

8. Why does Magna Carta still matter though it was annulled in 1215?

A. It abolished serfdom across the kingdom
B. It stated in writing that the king is under the law
C. It ended the power of the Church in England for good
D. It created a parliament elected by all men

B. It stated in writing that the king is under the law Clauses 39 and 40 barred seizing a free man except by lawful judgment and forbade selling justice.

9. Why is the Fourth Crusade seen as the movement's low point?

A. It failed to take Damascus in 1148
B. It lost Jerusalem to Saladin at Hattin
C. It sacked Christian Constantinople in 1204
D. It ended with Richard I captured in Austria

C. It sacked Christian Constantinople in 1204 An army sworn to Jerusalem sacked Zara and then Constantinople, poisoning Latin and Greek relations.

10. What three features define Gothic architecture?

A. Columns, pediment and a flat timber roof
B. Dome, pendentives and a central plan
C. Round arch, barrel vault and thick walls
D. Pointed arch, ribbed vault and flying buttress

D. Pointed arch, ribbed vault and flying buttress Together they move load off the wall, so the wall can become stained glass. The round arch is Romanesque.

ONE PAGE

Cram sheet

Everything from chapters 5 and 6 in one place. Cover the right column and see if you can rebuild each row.

Dates to know

Item	Date	Note
Justinian; Nika; Corpus	527 to 565; 532; 529 to 534	Gothic War 535 to 554; plague 541
Hijra; death of Muhammad	622; 632	Year 1 of the Islamic calendar
Yarmuk; Karbala	636; 680	Conquest; Sunni and Shia
Umayyads; Abbasids; Baghdad	661 to 750; from 750; 762	Damascus to Baghdad
Siege of Constantinople; iconoclasm ends	717 to 718; 843	Greek fire; Triumph of Orthodoxy
Clovis; Benedict's Rule	481 to 511; about 530s to 540s	Catholic baptism; monastic engine
Charlemagne; coronation; Verdun	768 to 814; 800; 843	Empire splits three ways
Lindisfarne; Normandy; Lechfeld	793; 911; 955	Second wave of raids
Hastings; Domesday	1066; 1086	Norman England
Canossa; Worms	1077; 1122	Investiture Controversy
Clermont; Jerusalem; Hattin; Constantinople; Acre	1095; 1099; 1187; 1204; 1291	Crusades
Magna Carta; Fourth Lateran	1215; 1215	King under law; yearly confession

Terms to know

Term	Meaning
Theme	Byzantine district with soldiers on the land
Umma	Community of believers
Caliph	Successor or deputy of the Prophet
Translation movement	Greek science into Arabic, then advanced
Missi dominici	Charlemagne's paired inspectors
Manor; demesne	Estate; the lord's own land
Commune; guild	Self-governing town; craft association
Lay investiture	Ruler gives a bishop ring and staff
Scholasticism	Resolving contradictions by distinction

Arguments that score points

Question	The strong answer
How did Byzantium survive?	By shrinking into a compact, militarized Greek state
Why were the conquests fast?	Exhausted empires, plague, mobility, light terms
Preserved or advanced?	Advanced: optics, medicine, algebra
Was there feudalism?	Decentralization real; the pyramid a later construct
What drove the High Middle Ages?	Food surplus from climate, peace and tools
Who won the investiture fight?	No one outright; authority stayed divided
Crusades as clash of civilizations?	Anachronistic on both sides

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