Study Guide for Chapter 5

The Decline of Feudalism

Content Standard

7.6 Students analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the civilizations of Medieval Europe.

7.6.5 Know the significance of developments in medieval English legal and constitutional practices and their importance in the rise of modern democratic thought and representative institutions (e.g., Magna Carta, parliament, development of habeas corpus, an independent judiciary in England).

7.6.7 Map the spread of the bubonic plague from Central Asia to China, the Middle East, and Europe and describe its impact on global population.

Terms Locate as many of the following terms as you can in your Reading or Activity Notes and highlight them. For each term not already in your notes, define and explain its significance on a separate sheet of paper.

Magna Carta (p. 53)
bubonic plague (p. 53)
Hundred Years’ War (p. 53)
King Henry II (p. 54)
King John (p. 54)
habeas corpus (p. 55)
King Edward I (p. 55)
Model Parliament (p. 55)
Black Death (p. 56)
Joan of Arc (p. 58)
heretic (p. 59)

Essential Questions Consult your Reading Notes and, when necessary, History Alive! The Medieval World and Beyond. For each question below, record notes that prepare you to answer it.

1. What political developments during the 12th and 13th centuries helped to weaken feudalism? How did they weaken feudalism? (7.6.5)
2. In what ways did the Magna Carta, the legal reforms of Henry II, and the Model Parliament contribute to the rise of modern democratic institutions? (7.6.5)
3. How did the bubonic plague spread to Europe? Be able to use a map to support your answer. (7.6.7)
4. What symptoms were associated with the bubonic plague? How did this disease affect population, trade and commerce, and power? (7.6.7)
5. Why did France and England fight the Hundred Years’ War? How did the outcome of this conflict help contribute to the decline of feudalism? (7.6)

Timeline Label and illustrate a timeline with the events listed below. For each event, draw a creative and appropriate symbol near its proper place on the timeline. Write the date the event occurred and an appropriate headline for each event.

Constitutions of Clarendon
Signing of Magna Carta
Setup of Model Parliament
Bubonic plague
Hundred Years’ War