WARM UP

- Write HW: work on project!!!
- Exam Review due TOMORROW
- Please get out your worksheet from yesterday.
- Read until class begins
LIFE ON A MEDIEVAL MANOR
Manor System: Basic economic arrangement where:
- Lord gives land/protection to peasant (by hiring knights)
- Peasant gives their services or works the land
A manor includes the castle and the land and buildings surrounding it.

Villages on a Manor usually had less than 600 residents (About 15-30 families).

They were self-sufficient, which means they produced everything they needed: Food, Clothing, and Farming Tools.

Peasants lived in simple homes, or a not-so-well put together cottage with dirt floors.

The Manor House was where the lord and his family lived. An interesting fact is that the kitchen was outside of the main building in case of a fire.
The people living on the manor were from all “levels” of Feudalism: Peasants, Knights, Lords, and Nobles.

There were usually large fields around the Manor used for livestock, crops, and hunting.

The only people allowed to hunt in the manor’s forests were nobles.

Buildings usually present on a manor were: a church and a village that had blacksmiths, bakers, and peasants’ huts.
Each manor was largely self-sufficient, growing or producing all of the basic items needed for food, clothing, and shelter.

To meet these needs, the manor had buildings devoted to special purposes, such as:

- The mill for grinding grain
- The bake house for making bread
- The blacksmith shop for creating metal goods.
People living on a manor were either peasants, trades people, women/children, or a higher class official.

Peasants would farm and grow food for the manor to make money.

Trades people would be millers, bakers, smiths, or carpenters to sell and trade their products.

Women and children would make clothes and meals or tend gardens and look after livestock.
LIFE ON A MANOR: THE LORD

- Lords were in charge of running the manor and giving out land.
- They were sometimes previous knights who mostly had more than one manor to look over. Their wealth came from the food, rents, fines, and fees they collected from the peasants.
- If a lord wasn’t looking after his land, the overlord would reassign a lord to look after the manor.
- The lord and his family usually lived in large stone houses called the manor house, it was also sometimes a castle. It had several rooms that were kept clean and nice at all times.
The lords with large manors usually had several hired people to help them. The most important assistants were the bailiff (legal advisor), and the reeve (manager).

The steward supervised all of the manors the lord had.

The bailiff was the lord’s representative on the manor and would instruct duties for the peasants.

The reeve was a wealthy peasant instructed to help the bailiff.
LIFE ON A MANOR: PEASANTS LIVES

- Worked from sunrise to sundown **growing food** and making other products for their families, lords, or to sell to towns.
- Peasants were usually serfs and were not allowed to leave the manor without the lords permission.
- Serfs were given land and a house in order to do work for the lord. Free peasants rented land from the lord and didn’t have to work for him.
Peasants paid for “privilege” of serving lord

- Tax on all grain ground into flour at the mill
- It was a crime to get your bread elsewhere
- Marriage was taxed and you had to have lord’s permission
- Church charged a tithe, or church tax of 10% of their income
- Cottages were small and crowded with dirt floors
- They lived with their pigs inside because they were warm!
- Straw beds were infested with bugs
- Work, work, work for your lord and your own food
- But, you were guaranteed land, food, and protection...
Three Field System

- Plant two fields each year and leave third fallow (empty)
- Increased food production
- Increased population
Peasant’s Wheel of Life

**SUMMER**
- July: Shearing sheep, mowing hay
- June: Planting vegetables, mashing peas

**SPRING**
- May: Planting peas, beans, flax, and hemp

**WINTER**
- February: Pruning trees, lambs and calves born
- January: Clearing ditches, cutting wood

**AUTUMN**
- November: Indicating indoor tasks, spinning, crafts
- December: Slaughtering pigs, collecting firewood
- October: Plowing, sowing wheat and rye, breeding sheep
- September: Harvesting peas and beans, breeding cattle
- August: Bally and oaks, harvesting flax, hemp, and rye
- July: Shearing sheep, mowing hay
SEASONAL DUTIES

- Spring- planted many crops, sheared sheep
- Summer- weed gardens, harvest many crops, breed cattle
- Fall- Plowing, sowing wheat, slaughter pigs, cut wood
- Winter- indoor activities (crafts, clothes, do repairs), animals born
The Church

- Christianity was common in European manors.
- The church was usually the second largest building in the manor.
- People went every Sunday to pray and mark important times in their lives.
- The church was also used as a meeting place for community events.
- Peasants/Serfs paid a tax on everything. A tithe was church tax amounting to $\frac{1}{10}$ of their income.
Peasants would rest from hard days work by joyfully celebrating festivals.

They would celebrate Christmas, Easter, Saints’ Days, and the Seasons.

Saints day was a day to honor their overseer called a saint.
Famine, Diseases, and Peasant Rebellions were forms of hard times in Medieval life.

Peasants would produce enough for their lords but sometimes not enough for everyone. If crops were damaged famine would be a result.

Diseases such as the Plague, or the Black Death, traveled on ships by rats. There were both the bubonic and pneumonic plagues. (we will learn more about this later)

Peasant rebellions were common when their conditions of working got worse.
The Medieval Manor

The medieval manor varied in size. The illustration to the right is a plan of a typical English manor.

1. Manor House
   The dwelling place of the lord and his family and their servants

2. Village Church
   Site of both religious services and public meetings

3. Peasant Cottages
   Where the peasants lived

4. Lord’s Demesne
   Fields owned by the lord and worked by the peasants

5. Peasant Crofts
   Gardens that belonged to the peasants

6. Mill
   Water-powered mill for grinding grain

7. Common Pasture
   Common area for grazing animals

8. Woodland
   Forests provided wood for fuel.
The Medieval Manor

A Medieval Manor

- Land cultivated for the lord
- Common fields
- Road

- Manor house
- Barn
- Blacksmith
- Bake house
- Mill
- Village
- Church
  - Priest's house
- ORCHARD
- MEADOW
- FOREST
- COMMON PASTURE
- SPRING PLANTING
- FALLING FIELD
- FALL PLANTING
MEDIEVAL MANOR

- What do you notice these manor pictures or diagrams have in common?
- If you were to create a manor, what would you HAVE to include?
  + Discuss
The lord of the manor lived in a large stone house called the manor house.

Sheep grazed on grassy fields, and villagers used sheep’s wool to make clothes.

Peasants grew vegetables in small gardens near their houses.

In the fall, peasants worked to harvest crops like wheat.

The village church was built on a small piece of land that belonged to the lord.

The village blacksmith made iron tools for farming.

Harvested wheat was taken to the mill and ground into flour, which was used to make bread.
ASSIGNMENT

- You will be completing an activity that asks you to create your own manor.
- I have handouts to help you if you need them.
- Create/draw your own manor. It must include the 15 items listed on the worksheet and your map must be neat and complete. This will be a practice grade out of 20 questions so each item will be worth 5 points.