

Year 7 History Homework
Commissioner's Report: Extra Information...

Your task:

Imagine it is the year 1385 and you have been asked by King Richard II to write a report telling him about what life was like in a typical English village. He wants to make decisions about whether to increase the taxes but needs evidence to back up his decision. It is your job to research and write this report!

Skills:

We will be looking for evidence of the following skills in your report:

- ❖ Communication – can you present your work clearly and organise it so it makes sense and is easy to read?
- ❖ Good historical knowledge – have you shown you understand life in Medieval England? Can you describe and compare the lives of rich and poor? Can you use key words? Have you shown evidence of independent research?
- ❖ Interpretation – can you reach your own opinion about how and why the lives of the rich and poor were different? Can you explain your decisions and support your ideas with evidence? Do you understand why different groups in society might have had different opinions about issues like tax?

Top tips:

- ❖ Include plenty of key words.
- ❖ Use pictures and colour to make your report stand out.
- ❖ Write in the style of a report – include sections, titles, headings etc...
- ❖ Remember, you are writing to the King: use appropriate language to stay in his good books!
- ❖ Make sure you give your own opinion in the conclusion – should the King raise taxes? How different / similar are the lives of rich and poor?

To reach the highest levels you could consider...

- ❖ Including your ideas and opinions about how events like the Black Death impacted on villages. Did life change? If so, how much? Who did life change for the most?
- ❖ You could think about including opinions of different 'villagers' in your report to show a variety of different opinions – how would the opinions of young and old differ? Could older villagers comment on change over time?

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