HIAS Primary History post-1066 resources.
Enquiry 1: Who had the power in medieval England?

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This painting shows king **Henry III with** his **barons** and **knights**.

He ruled the **kingdom** of England in the **13th century** from 1216-1272.

He is standing in the impressive Great Hall he built at Winchester Castle

Kingdom: land ruled by a king or a queen

This is a picture of Henry III being crowned by his Bishops

Henry III ruled his kingdom, with his **chief advisers,** noblemen and knights.

Noblemen who advised the king and ruled land like **barons** and Church **Bishops.**

Knights were given land by the king to fight on **horseback** for the king or with his barons.
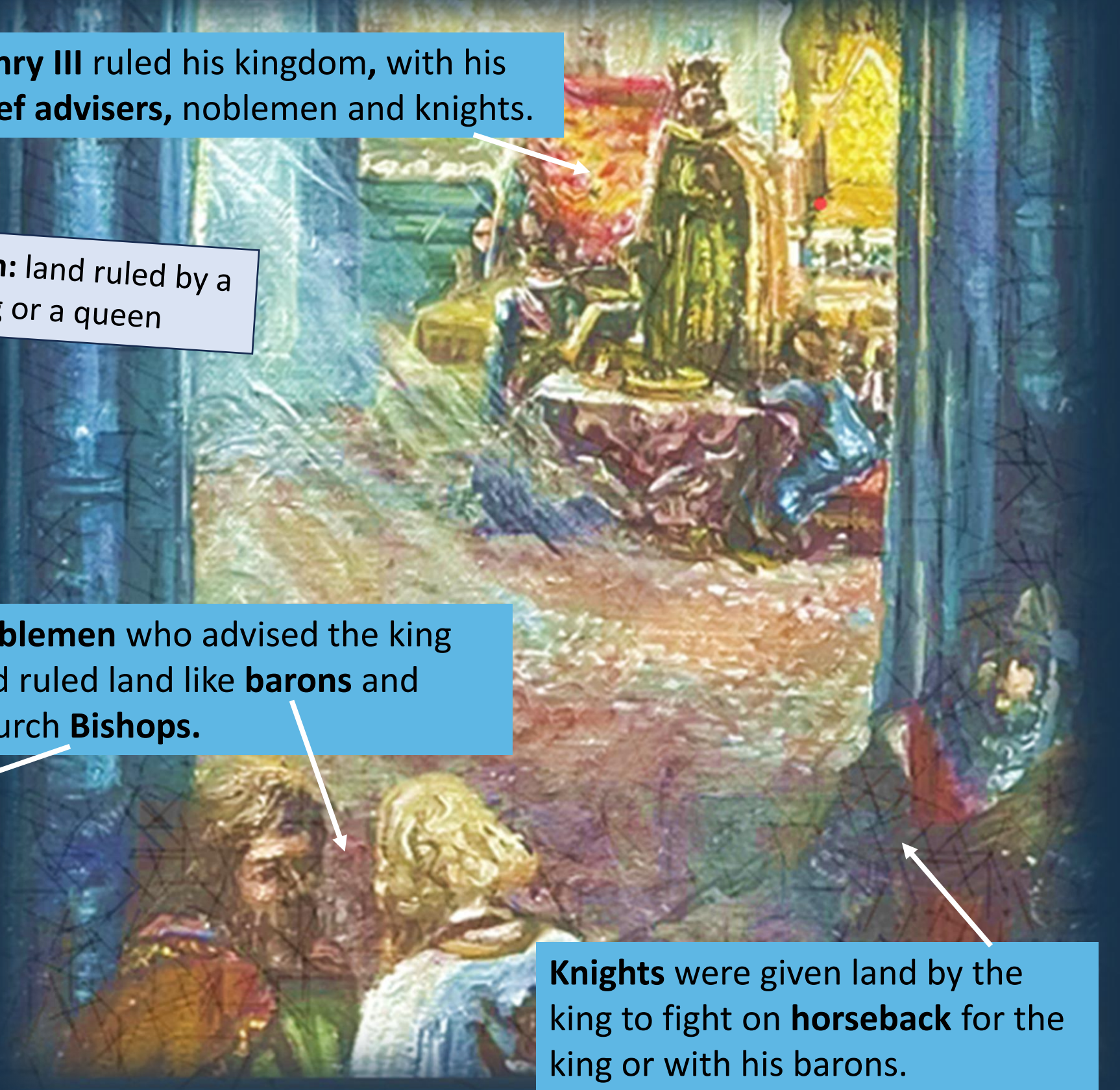
This is the inside of the **Great Hall in Winchester** today.

It was a place where people with the most **power** met as part of the King's court in Medieval England.

Power is control or influence over others

What sort of power might different people have had in medieval society?

Our history enquiry question is:
Who had the power in medieval England 1066?

End of the Stone Age	Bronze Age	Iron Age	Roman Britain	Anglo-Saxon Britain	Viking Britain	Medieval Britain
800 BC	2500 BC 800 BC	800 BC 43 AD	43AD 410AD	450 AD 1066 AD	800 AD 1066 AD	1066 AD 1485 AD

Let's think back to what you have learned!

Who had power in **Anglo-Saxon** Britain?

Land ruled by the Vikings

Anglo Saxon Kingdoms

Alfred's daughter Aethelflaed ruler of Merica

King Alfred Ruler of Wessex and Mercia.

Before 1066 England was divided into small **kingdoms** ruled by **Anglo-Saxon Kings**.

For example, **King Alfred** ruled Wessex from Winchester. His daughter ruled Mercia as the Lady of Mercians.

Power and land could be lost to invaders from other kingdoms or overseas.

Think. Who invaded Anglo-Saxon England?

	Viking Britain	
	800 AD	1066 AD

End of the Stone Age	Bronze Age	Iron Age	Roman Britain	Anglo- Saxon Britain	Medieval Britain
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Yes! The Vikings invaded.

The Vikings and the Anglo –Saxons struggled for control of Britain. King Alfred pushed them back to the North and East.

By 954 Anglo-Saxon kingdoms united to defeat the Vikings and become one big **Kingdom** of England.

When the Anglo-Saxon King **Edward the Confessor** died in 1066, the Vikings invaded again! The Anglo-Saxons defeated them.

How did the Anglo- Saxons lose power in Britain?

Just 3 days later in 1066 Normans invaded from Normandy in France. The **Normans** won!

William the **Conqueror** became the Norman king of England, William I. The Normans had taken power by **force** and built **castles** to protect their men. The medieval period had begun!

End of the Stone Age	Bronze Age	Iron Age	Roman Britain	Anglo- Saxon Britain	Medieval Britain
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Viking Britain
800 AD 1066 AD

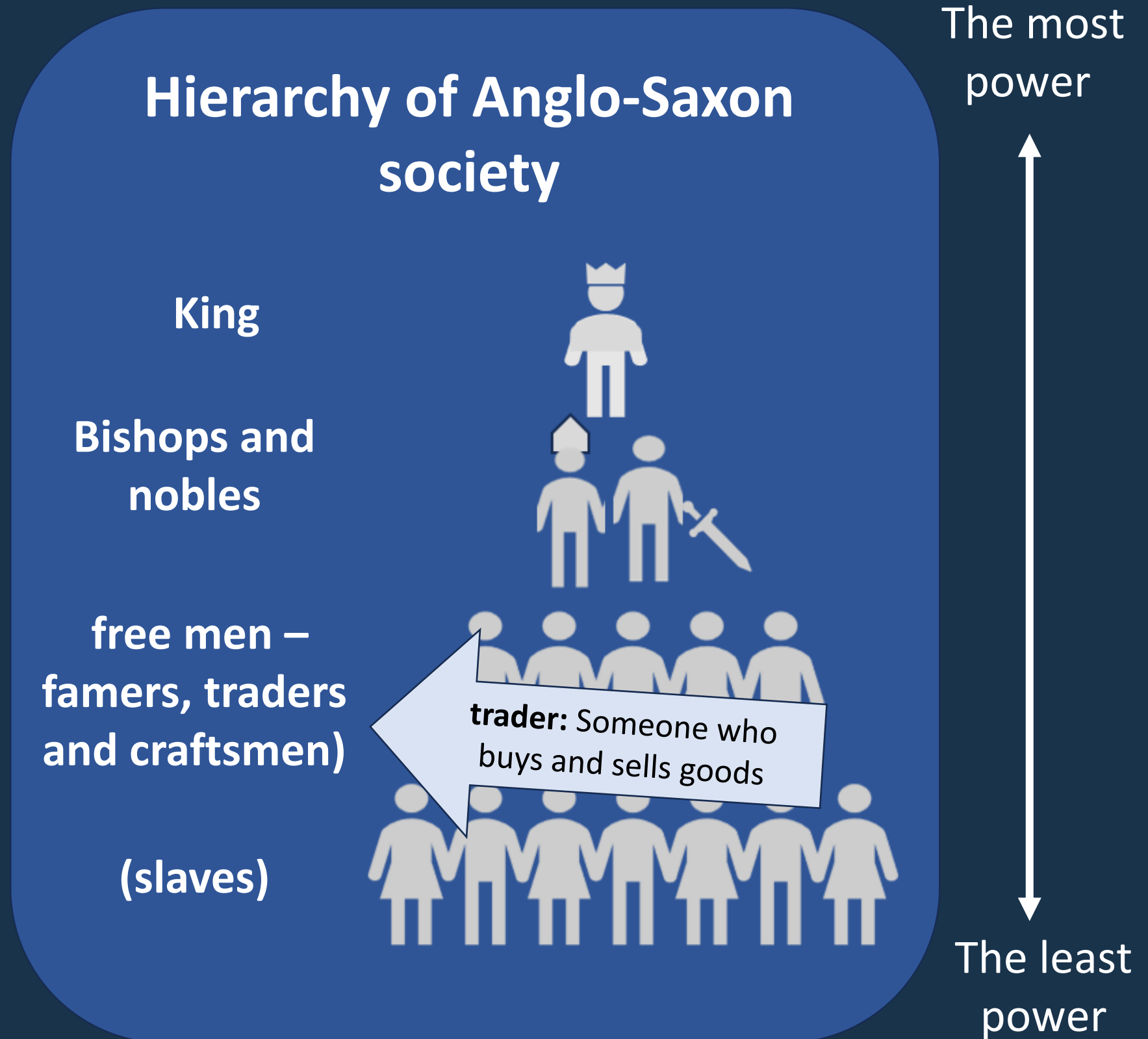# Who had the power in Anglo-Saxon society?

Kings had the most power.

He ruled with the help of important **nobles:** the earls and thegns

The higher up in society you were, the more **land, wealth and power** you had.

Most people were Ceorls free men who were farmers and traders.

Thralls had no power. They were the property of their master.

Hierarchy of Anglo-Saxon society

The most power

King

Bishops and nobles

free men – famers, traders and craftsmen)

trader: Someone who buys and sells goods

(slaves)

The least power

Step 1 Find out who had the power in medieval England?

✂ Cut out the people on the next slides and place them along your copy of the line of power to show how much power each group had.

Total power
(full control)

Some power
(some control or freedom)

No power
(powerless)

Peasants
Many people were farmers who worked on other people's land or their own small area of land.

They had to do what their lord said. Most could not leave their village. Some had no power and were treated like slaves.

If they were angry because they didn't have enough food or **wages** they might **rebel** against the king.

They were very poor. Some had to work on the lord's land for free for some days. All had to fight for the king.

Traders
Traders were free men who were allowed to buy and sell things in towns and cities. They were free to travel. The goods they brought into towns and cities were very helpful to markets and created jobs.

Christian traders tried to stop people with different beliefs being allowed to trade in most things. They formed clubs or guilds to control who could trade. Only Christians could join them.

Most were richer than peasants. Some became very rich. They began to demand more say in what happened in their town.

Parish Priests
Priests looked after the churches in towns and villages. They collected money from people in their churches.

They had the power to forgive sins and report people to church courts for punishment.

They had to obey Church bishops and their king. Most were poor.

Jewish people
The king and the Church tried to **convert** Jewish people to become Christian. Muslim people were not allowed to stay in England.

Jewish people were allowed to live in some towns and could ask to travel. But they belonged to the king so everything they had was his.

The king could take money from them and spend it on what he wanted without asking the barons.

They could not own land or work in most jobs. Many were traders who had good connections with world trade. Some were doctors. A few became rich working with nobles. Most were poor.

The King

People believed God gave the king the power to rule over all the land and all the people. He could give orders and do what he liked most of the time.

He was very rich and powerful. His money came from taxes and his land.

The king could not control the country on his own. He needed the support of his barons and built castles to protect them.

He led the army into battle. He made the laws and acted as a judge.

The king had to support the Church. If he did not the Church leader (the pope) would ban him from heaven and ask other Christian kings to fight against him.

The barons

Barons were given large areas of land by the king to help him rule. This made them rich and powerful. Most of the time they did what the king wanted

They had their own knights and promised that the king could use them in his army.

They could fight against the king if he did not ask their advice or gave away too much land and money to his favourites.

The barons forced Henry III to ask them before he taxed people in special meetings called parliaments. They asked the king for more power before they agreed to the taxes.

The knights

Knights were given land to fight on horseback for their king and to serve their baron. They had to do what barons asked.

Their land made them quite rich. It gave them power over the peasant farmers who worked on the knights' land.

They helped make sure taxes were collected for the king.

The bishops

Bishops were given large areas of land by the king to help him rule.

They ran the services in cathedrals and collected money from their churches and their land. They were very rich.

They did what their leader the pope said, most of the time. They were also expected to serve the king. They could ask the pope for help if the king didn't listen to them.

Some bishops had knights and helped to lead the king's army. They sometimes rebelled against the king with the barons.

Step 1 Find out who had the power in medieval England!

1. Place the medieval people along this line to show who had the most / least power.

Total power (full control)	Some power (some control or freedom)	No power (powerless)

⟷

2. Finish these sentences:

The people with the most power were….

The people with the least power were….

Step 2 Make a human power line!

1. Stand along this line in your classroom to show how much power your person had in the medieval period.

2. Hold up the name of your character and be ready to explain to the class why you have chosen to stand there!

Total power
(full control)

No power
(No control)

I had total power because ….

No one could stop me because …

I had a lot of power but not total power because….

I had some power for example…

but other people had more power …

I had little power because I …
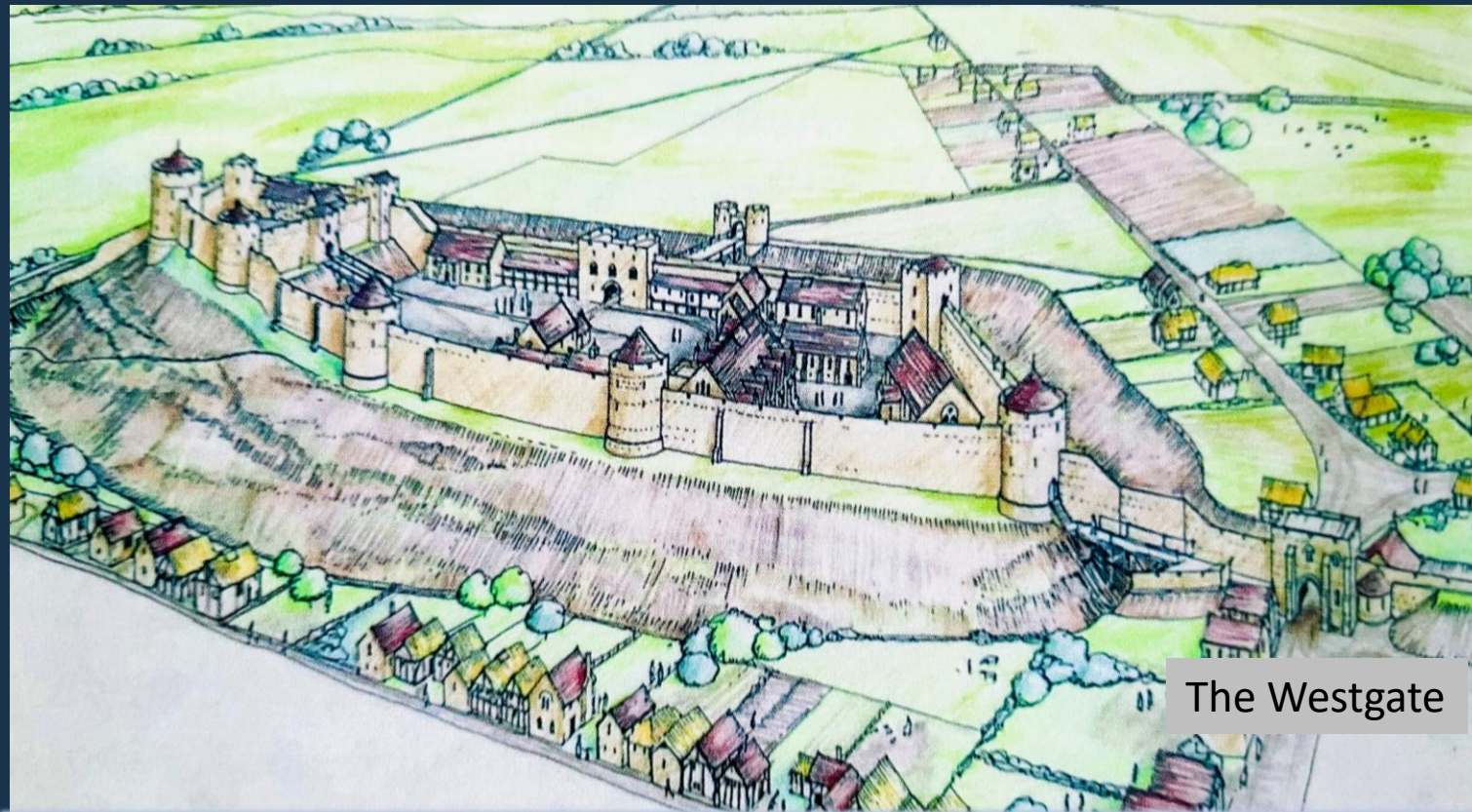
But I could ….

I had no power at all because…

Why did the king not have total power?

Who could challenge him?

How was the power of the king and the church different?

The king had **secular** power over the people in his kingdom.
People were expected to obey the king and be loyal to him.
His nobles helped him to rule the people in his kingdom.

The Westgate

Interesting facts

This is Winchester **Castle** built by the Normans. The Normans built lots of castles to **protect** the barons and knights. They were a **symbol** of the King's power.

Henry III descended from the **Normans**. His French family were known as **Plantagenets.** He had many castles but we know Henry often visited this castle at Christmas.
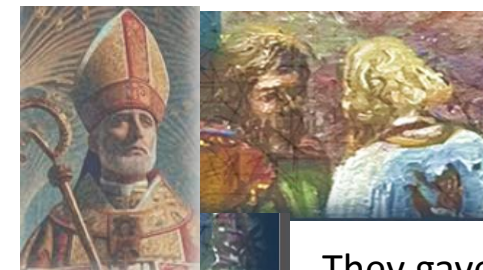
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Hierarchy of medieval society

The King: he was seen as God's chosen leader

He gave land to his nobles for their loyalty

Nobles: bishops, barons and their knights

They gave land to the peasants and other labourers for their service.

Labourers: Traders were granted permission to trade in towns

Most peasants worked on the lords' land and paid rent in crops or 40 days of work for the lord.

The pope had **<u>religious</u>** power over the church and influence over every part of society. How did this work?

The Church really mattered to people in medieval England and other kingdoms in Western Europe. There was only one Church. This was a big, powerful **organisation** known as the **Catholic Church.**

Most people were Christian and part of the Catholic Church so they listened to what the Church said. They believed the Church leaders had the power to decide if you went to heaven. Even the king was expected to support the Church. If he ignored the Pope, he could be **excommunicated** -banned from heaven! The Normans had built many church buildings and large cathedrals. People were fined if they did not attend church.

The Church was **prejudiced** against people who were not Christian like Muslims and Jews.

Hierarchy of the church

The pope was head of the Catholic Church and seen as God's representative on Earth.

He was rich and powerful and could use armed forces.

He ruled the Church from **Rome in Italy** (or France for a short time)

Archbishops and bishops advised the king and owned large areas of land. They were rich and powerful.

They ran **Cathedrals** in important cities

Parish Priests had the power to forgive sins and report people to church courts for punishment. Most were poor.

They ran **smaller churches** in towns and villages.
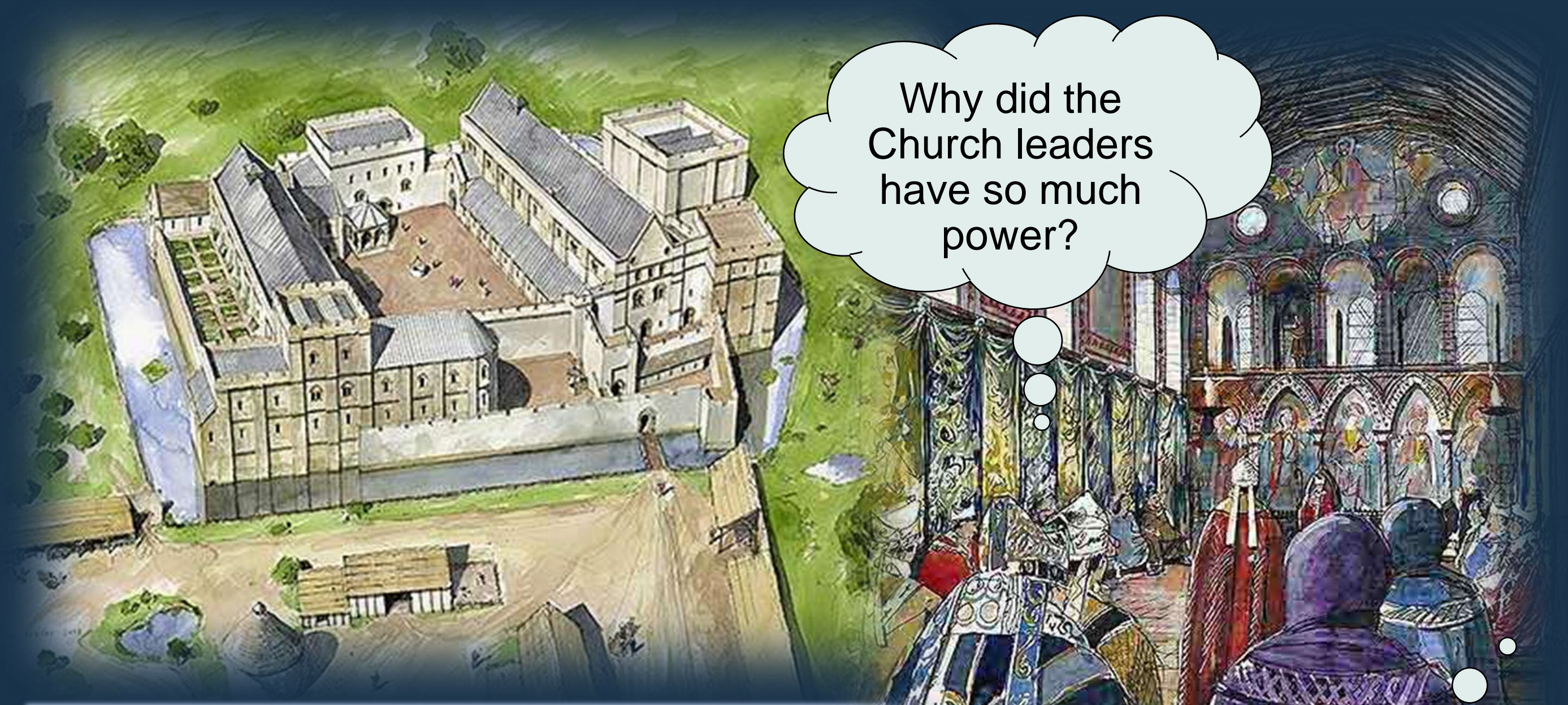
Prejudice sounds like:
Pr – ej – a – diss

Have a go at saying
Prejudice

What does it mean?
Prejudice is to think badly of people with no good reason

Why were some English people Jewish?

After the **Normans invaded** in 1066, King William wanted to fill English towns and cities with French people to help stop Saxons rebelling against him.

Normans encouraged French **traders** to **migrate** to England at this time.

Migrate move to a new place

French people came with their skills, including some French Jews. They helped to create more jobs and **trade** in England.

Jewish people were well connected in trade so were very helpful to **markets** in towns and cities in England.

They lived and worked in towns and cities with their Christian neighbours

How would you feel if you moved to another country?

Jewish people
The king and the Church tried to **convert** Jewish people to become Christian. Muslim people were not allowed to stay in England.

Jewish people were allowed to live in some towns and could ask to travel. But they belonged to the king so everything they had was his.

The king could take money from them and spend it on what he wanted without asking the barons.

They could not own land or work in most jobs. Many were traders who had good connections with world trade. Some were doctors. A few became rich working with nobles. Most were poor.

Jewish people didn't fit into the usual power structures in society.
- They were not Christian so were not under the power and authority of the Church in the same way.
- They could not own land like nobles or live and work on the nobles' land under their control like the peasants.

They had a separate place in society.
- They belonged to the king and were under his authority only.

Step 3 Find out if this made Jewish lives better or worse?

Look at the different ways the Church and the king used their power differently towards the Jews.

Tick whether each one made their lives better or worse.

Step 3 Did the king and the Church choose to use their power to make the lives of Jewish people better or worse?

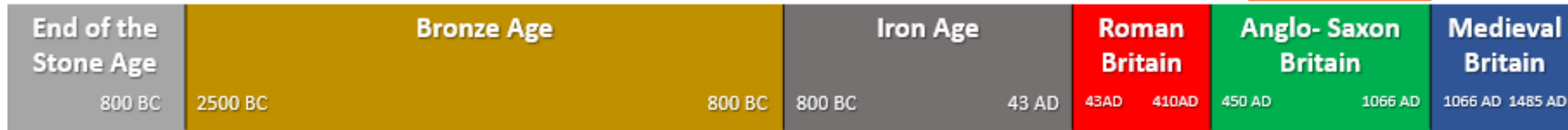**1. Tick each one to show if this use of power made Jewish lives better or worse.** ✏️

How the king used his power	Better	Worse
1. He made Jewish people his **property.** He could take anything they had when he wanted. In return they could live in England with his protection (this did not stop people attacking Jewish people and their homes).		
2. He had the power to take money from Jewish people without asking the barons. He often demanded large **sums** of money from them. This made many Jewish people **poor**.		
3. He banned Jews from owning land except for the house they lived in.		
4. He tried to **convert** Jews to become Christians and made them wear the **badge** the pope wanted Jews to wear to separate Jews from Christians.		

How the Church used its power	Better	Worse
1.The pope made it very clear that Christians should not mix with people of a different religion. Bishops and priests in England tried to **separate Jews** and **Christians**. They asked the king to make sure Jews wore their badges.		
2. Church leaders tried to **convert** Jews to become Christians.		
3. Catholic monks asked the king to make Jews **leave** England (**Muslims** were already **banned** from living in England).		

Step 3 find out what you can remember.

2. Circle the medieval period on the timeline: ✏️

	Viking Britain 800 AD 1066 AD

End of the Stone Age 800 BC	Bronze Age 2500 BC 800 BC	Iron Age 800 BC 43 AD	Roman Britain 43AD 410AD	Anglo- Saxon Britain 450 AD 1066 AD	Medieval Britain 1066 AD 1485 AD

3. Draw an arrow from each word to the correct meaning: ✏️

1. Kingdom
2. King
3. Baron
4. Knight
5. Bishop
6. Parish priests
7. Trader
8. Prejudice
9. Migrate
10. Invade
11. Conquer
12. Power
13. Convert
14. Medieval period
15. Jews

A) **Move** to a new place.

B) Land and people **ruled by a king**.

C) **Ruler** of a kingdom.

D) Rich **church leaders** who advised the king.

E) The **king's advisors** who had knights to control their land.

F) **Fought on horseback** for nobles and the king's army.

G) had the power to **forgive sins**.

H) Think **badly** of people with **no good reason.**

I) To **go into** a place by **force**.

J) To **take control** of new land by force.

K) Someone who **buys and sells goods.**

L) To **change your beliefs.**

M) Being able to **control what people do** or influence them.

N) Began in 1066 when the Normans invaded and conquered England.

O) People who are Jewish. Medieval English Jews lived in towns and cities and most had a different religion to Christians.

4. Finish these sentences: ✏️

The way the Church used its power made life difficult for Jewish people because….

The way the king used his power made life difficult for Jewish people because….

Let's check we have the correct answers.

Draw an arrow from each word to the correct meaning

1. Kingdom
2. King
3. Baron
4. Knight
5. Bishop
6. Parish priests
7. Trader
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O) People who are Jewish. Medieval English Jews lived in towns and cities and most had a different religion to Christians.

Think about your enquiry:

What would it be like to live as a Jewish person at a time when the people in power had prejudice against people who were not Christian?

We know because historians have written about the story of a woman who lived as part of the small Jewish community in England.
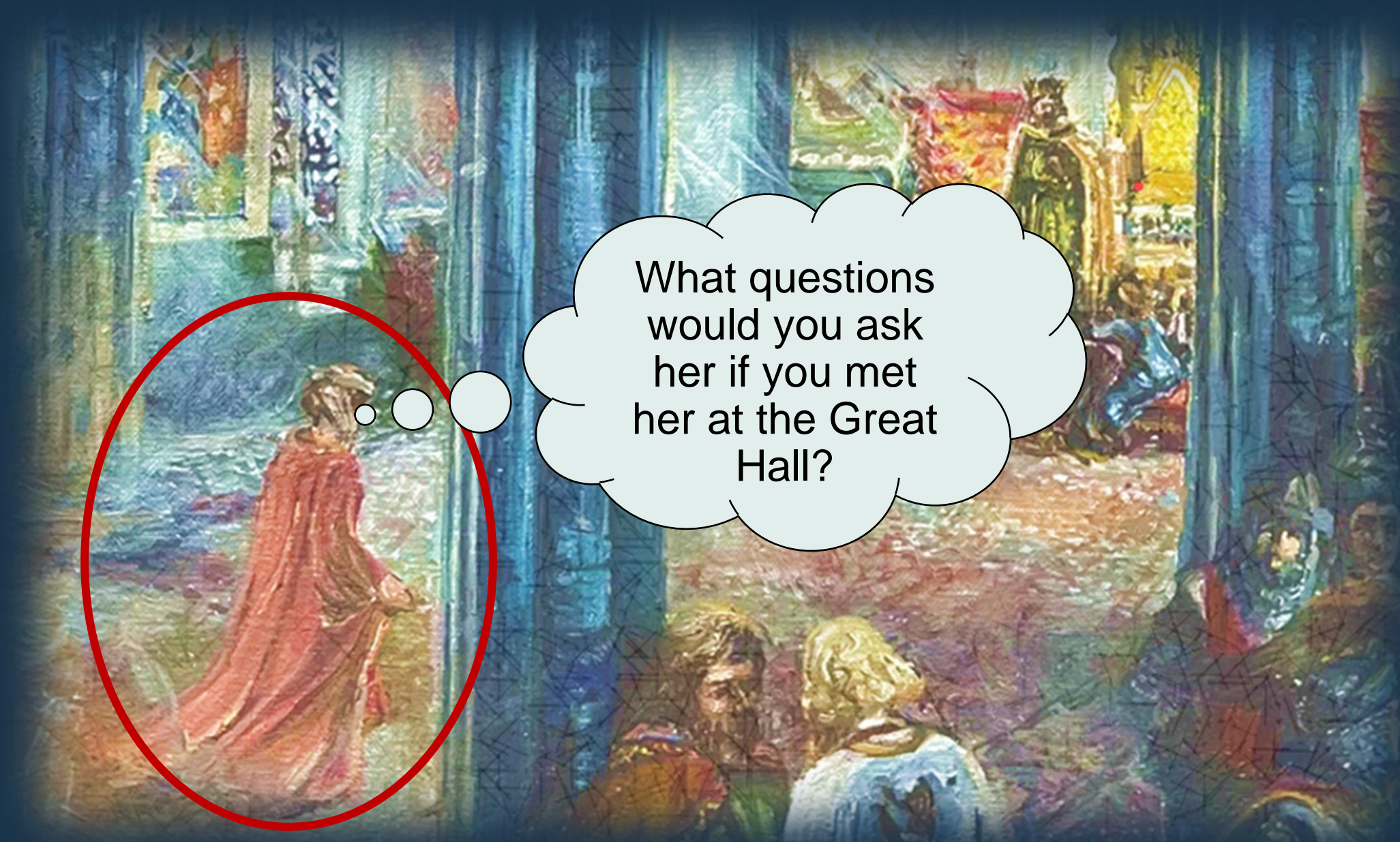Her name is Licoricia of Winchester.

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Page 1-3, 8-10, 13 & 21 Painting of Licoricia and Henry III in the Great Hall by Lucille Dweck with kind permission of Licoricia of Winchester Appeal charity, Licoricia.org.

Page 4 The interior of the Great Hall By Johan Bakker - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=28243767

Page 4 Great Hall, Winchester Castle by Martin Kraft - Own work, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=16677535 CC BY-SA 3.0.

Page 5 Image of King Alfred depicted in a stained-glass window of c.1905 in Bristol Cathedral By Charles Eamer Kempe. Cropped by User:Ranveig. - File:RichardHakluyt-BristolCathedral-stainedglasswindow-whole.jpg CC BY 3.0 , https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=5602016 ;
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Image of Aethleflead as depicted in the cartulary of Abingdon Abbey (British Library Cotton MS Claudius B VI, f.14)By Anonymous **http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/illmanus/cottmanucoll/q/zoomify75052.html** , Public Domain **https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=10686722**
Image of Anglo-Saxon village dwellings reconstructed at West Stow Anglo-Saxon village adapted from File:West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village buildings 2.png By 1. Rob Farrow2. Ron Strutt3. Rob Farrow4. Keith Evans - Combination of the following files:1. File:West stow 1.jpg2. File:Anglo-Saxon village at West Stow - geograph.org.uk - 40260.jpg3. File:West stow 3.jpg4. File:Anglo-Saxon village at West Stow 6337 Keith Evans.jpg, CC BY 2.5, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=138195267 CC BY 2.5

Page 6 Viking image "Guests from Overseas" By Nicholas Roerich - Myseum by name of Nicolas Roerichthe last upload: Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow, Public Domain**, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=21509654**

Page 6 Edward the Confessor By Unknown Master, English or French (second half of 14th century) - The National Gallery, London, Public Domain, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=38178951 Part of Richard II of England with his patron saints, l to r: King Edmund the Martyr, King Edward the Confessor, St John the Baptist. The Wilton Diptych (c.1395–1399) is a portable altarpiece taking the form of a diptych, painted for King Richard II. This is the left-hand panel.

Page 6 and 16 Image from the Bayeux Tapestry showing William By 12th century - Lucien Musset's The Bayeux Tapestry ISBN 9781843831631, Public Domain, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=19617197

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Page 8, 9 and 13 15th century **Medieval Market and traders**, at https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Medieval_market.jpg Nicole Oresme, translation of Aristotle's Ethics, Politics, and Economics, Rouen (France), Bibliothèque Municipale, Ms. 927, fol. 145, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons.

Page 8, 9 and 13 Medieval illustration of **men harvesting** wheat with reaping-hooks or sickles, on a calendar page for August. Queen Mary's Psalter (Ms. Royal 2. B. VII), Public Domain By anonymous (Queen Mary Master) - this file: scan dated 2009, uploaded (without identification of the source) 12 May 2010 by Ann Scott (medievalminds.comReeve-and-Serfs.original1.jpg), Public Domain, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=16340916

Page 8 , 10 and 13 Archbishop Image created and adapted from Chat GPT using DALL.E by S.Herrity

Page 13 Reconstruction of Winchester Castle and Westgate c.1283 after Henry III's renovations with kind permission of Hampshire Architects Department.

Page 14 Reconstructions of **medieval Winchester** Images created and adapted from Chat GPT using DALL.E by S.Herrity

Page 14 Coronation of Henry III by Anonymous - Cotton Vitellius A. XIII, Public Domain, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=4930571

Page 14 "**The Pope Innocent III**" - fresco mid 13th century - Monastery of Sacro Speco of Saint Benedict - Subiaco (Rome) By Carlo Raso - https://www.flickr.com/photos/70125105@N06/27634903650/, Public Domain, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=115856200 Public Domain

Page 15 Bishop Henry presiding over a **meeting of church leaders** in the east hall block of th Bishop's Palace in about 1160 (illustration by Liam Wales) © Historic England Archive.
Page 15 A reconstruction drawing showing how the **Bishop's palace** in Winchester may have looked in about 1170, by which time its buildings, arranged around an inner courtyard, were surrounded by a moat (illustration by Liam Wales) © Historic England Archive.

Page 8-9 and 16-17 French Jews, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:FrenchJews1.jpg , Singer, Isidore, 1859-1939; Adler, Cyrus, 1863-1940, Public Domain, , via Wikimedia Commons.

With thanks to Maggie and William Carver for their support in the development of these teaching materials produced by Sarah Herrity HIAS inspector for History.