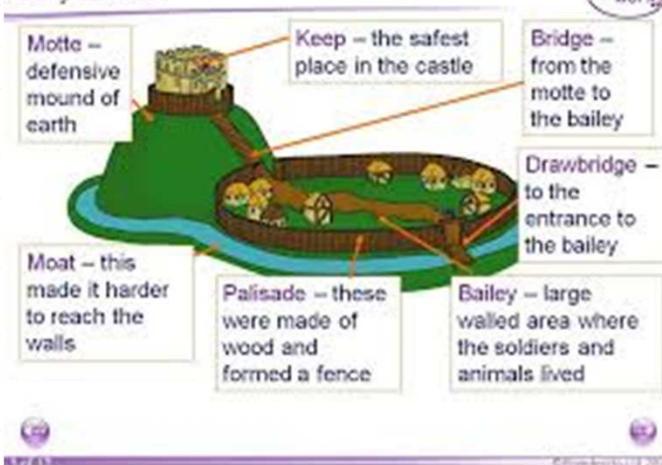


Year 7 Half Term 2 Knowledge Organiser- Norman England

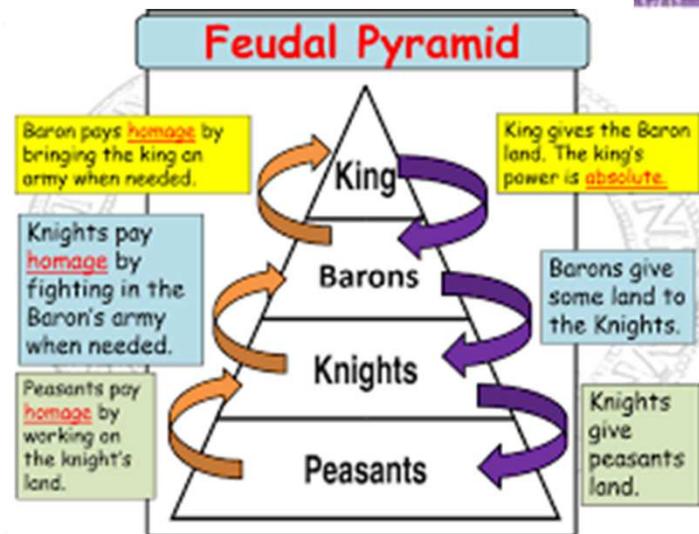
Key Term	Definition
Medieval	The period between 1066-1500
Feudal system	The social structure of Medieval England
Villein	Peasant at the bottom of the Feudal system
Baron	Noble land owner that pledged their loyalty to the King
Normans	People from the Normandy region of France, led by King William
Motte and Bailey	The first type of castle made by William. It was made out of wood and had a higher Motte part and a lower Bailey part

Early castles



Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Were built very quickly Made out of materials available locally Built in 8 days Used as bases for knights and soldiers Sites for markets and trade Defenders could see and enemy attack in advance. Could protect citizens A few soldiers could control a large area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The walls rotted quickly Could be easily burnt or destroyed Needed constant maintenance. Were cramped and uncomfortable

Feudal Pyramid



The Feudal System

After taking the throne in 1066, William has a few problems:

- He does not trust the English lords, who do not like him.
- He has to force the English to accept him as King.
- Many of the English are rebelling and fighting against William.
- He has to pay the French Knights who helped him to win the throne.

Solution: William crushes the rebellions and took the land away from the English lords and gave it to his supporters instead. William now has his supporters helping him to control the whole country.

William also sets up the **Feudal System**. This forces the English to give William their taxes and promises of loyalty, in return for protection and land to farm. William is at the top of the system, as he holds all the land and money, which he gives to the Barons. They promise William their money, soldiers and loyalty. They give the land to the Knights in return for loyalty and military service. Finally the knights give the land to the peasants. The peasants farm the land and give food, money and services to the knights.

The Domesday Book

In 1086, William sent out surveyors to every part of England, with orders to list:

- how much land was there
- who had owned it in 1066, and who owned it now
- what was the place like, and who lived there
- how much it was worth in 1066 and how much now

William did this to allow him to effectively tax the land and earn money.

William also needed to have an idea of what could be seized from landowners who did not show him loyalty.

