## Medieval Europe ER Name:

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| **Feudalism** | | |
| *Feudalism* was the economy of Europe in the Middle Ages. In Feudalism, the King gives land to lords. Then those lords serve as his soldiers. Anyone who lives on the land is a servant of the lord.  Lords had a lot of power. They could do mostly whatever they wanted on their land and could only be tried by other lords. | **What is Feudalism?**  **Describe Feudalism:** | |
| **Problems with Feudalism: for Kings**  Feudalism was a huge problem for monarchs because a feudal country is really hard to run.  The Kings were generally only a little more powerful than their strongest lords, which meant they needed to keep their lords happy or they could easily be overthrown.  This resulted in lords having enormous legal privileges. They were basically above the law and could do more or less whatever they wanted within their own lands. | **Why was Feudalism a problem for kings?** | |
| **Problems with Feudalism: for Peasants**  Most people were peasants and their lives were already hard—poor sanitation, poor, and extremely long workdays. Those problems would exist without feudalism.  Feudalism added some problems on its own.   1. Most peasants were owned by their lord and were forbidden to ever move, even if their land was bad. 2. Lords could treat their peasants horribly and never face legal trouble. | **What are 2 ways in which Feudalism worsened the lives of peasants?** | |
| **Problems with Feudalism: for Economy**  Economic growth requires that people be able to invest in new ideas. This allows new industries and inventions to grow.  However, during Feudalism, there were a very small number of people who could afford to invest. Only lords had money and lords got their money from farming.  Therefore, any industry or invention that did not have to do with farming would have a very hard time getting investment. | **Why would this problem slow technological growth?** | |
| **Catholic Church** | | |
| Catholicism is a kind of Christianity that says that contact with God only occurs through priests. Priests in turn get their direction from higher ranking priests. The highest ranking of all of them is the Pope, who has the closest connection with God. During the middle ages, almost everyone in Europe was Catholic. | | **What is Catholicism?**  **How do you contact God?** |
| **Problems with Catholicism: science**  In the Middle Ages, the Medieval Church was very opposed to science. The medieval church had built a view of the world based upon the bible and the writings of a few prominent saints. To question this was *blasphemy* (an offense to God), which could result in death, torture, or life in prison.  This made scientific experimentation very dangerous if you came to any conclusions the church disagreed with. | | **How was science held back by the Medieval Church?** |
| **Problems with Catholicism: economy**  The economic problems with feudalism were worsened by the church.  The medieval church had forbidden money lending because it was considered immoral. However, in doing so, they created yet another obstacle for new industries and inventions. People were not able to take loans to fund their ideas. | | **How did the Medieval Church worsen problems with Feudalism?** |

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| **Last Question** |
| **Why would a modern society be unable to develop under this system?** Support your answer |