Medieval Rights & Town Life



Name _____ Date _____

1 Recall, then make a connection.

Start from memory. Write a meaning or quick example for each term.

Charter	Status	Enforcement

How could a charter grant protections that depend on status? Explain why enforcement matters when evaluating whether a written promise changed people's lives.

Context for the task

Medieval Europe contained varied kingdoms, towns, estates, religious institutions, and obligations. A simplified "feudal pyramid" cannot capture every place or century. People held different rights and duties depending on status and local institutions. Kings exercised authority, but they also negotiated with nobles, towns, and religious leaders.

2 Build the sequence.

Test the charter

A historian wants to know whether a promised hearing changed treatment of residents.

Order the research steps.

A. Find cases before and after the agreement.

B. Compare treatment using similar cases and note differences in status.

C. State a supported conclusion and what records are missing.

D. Identify the hearing clause and whom it covered.

Sequence: _____ -> _____ -> _____ -> _____

Explain one connection between two neighboring steps.

Evidence, application & transfer.



3 Read the evidence closely.

Who is missing?

The fictional charter is negotiated only by landholding nobles and town merchants. A display claims it records every resident's priorities.

Select all evidence that would challenge that claim.

A. The negotiation record names only nobles and merchants as participants.

B. A laborer's petition describes a concern absent from the charter.

C. A clause specifies the town market's opening hours.

D. The king's seal appears on the document.

Selections: _____ Explain your reasoning:

4 Apply the idea.

The final judgment

One later case enforces a charter protection, while another denies it to a person outside the covered group.

Which conclusion fits?

A. The protection mattered in one documented case but remained limited in scope.

B. The first case proves equal rights for everyone.

C. The second case proves the charter never affected anyone.

My choice: _____ Explain why it fits:

5 Carry the idea forward.

Write a town-history note explaining how a charter could change authority while leaving inequalities in place. Use one rule, one enforcement example, and one missing perspective.