The Middle Ages

Choose one answer per question. Circle A, B, C, or D.

1. Between which two broad periods do historians commonly place the European Middle Ages?
   A. Classical antiquity and the Renaissance
   B. The Renaissance and the Industrial Revolution
   C. The Bronze Age and classical antiquity
   D. The Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution

2. Before printing spread in Europe, what work in some monasteries helped texts survive?
   A. Photographing every page
   B. Broadcasting lectures by radio
   C. Copying manuscripts by hand
   D. Typing duplicate pages with carbon paper

3. Which activity could a dependent peasant owe a lord on a medieval manor?
   A. A yearly vote for a national parliament
   B. Days of work on the lord’s land
   C. A share of overseas factory profits
   D. A payment for full ownership of the manor

4. Which ruler appears on the early medieval timeline as the Carolingian emperor crowned in 800?
   A. Edward I of England
   B. Alfred the Great
   C. William of Normandy
   D. Charlemagne

5. In the name motte-and-bailey castle, what is the motte?
   A. An enclosed courtyard
   B. A raised mound
   C. A gatehouse
   D. A drawbridge

6. How were the images on the linen of the Bayeux Tapestry made?
   A. They were embroidered with thread.
   B. They were printed from carved wooden blocks.
   C. They were painted on with egg tempera.
   D. They were woven as part of the original linen cloth.

7. A medieval manuscript begins with a large letter A filled with a painted scene. Which term best describes that letter?
   A. A marginal catchword
   B. An index entry
   C. A colophon
   D. An illuminated initial

8. What did the medieval Hanseatic League help merchants do across northern Europe?
   A. Choose one emperor for all European kingdoms
   B. Standardize teaching at every university
   C. Protect shared trading privileges and maintain commercial links
   D. Replace merchant ships with land-only routes

9. What happened to Córdoba’s Great Mosque in 1236?
   A. It was dedicated as a Christian cathedral.
   B. It became a chartered law school.
   C. It became the royal palace of the Frankish kings.
   D. It was converted into a market for Hanseatic merchants.

10. Which academic subject helped Bologna become a major study center around the start of its university tradition?
   A. Music
   B. Medicine
   C. Astronomy
   D. Law

11. Which two church centers were at the heart of the split commonly dated to 1054?
   A. Venice and Florence
   B. Paris and London
   C. Rome and Constantinople
   D. Dublin and Edinburgh

12. Why does the U.S. National Archives label its copy of Magna Carta 1297 if King John first issued the charter in 1215?

A. The charter was written in 1297 and assigned a fictional earlier date.
B. The displayed copy is a later reissue entered into England’s statute rolls.
C. The copy is a new compilation of laws from both dates.
D. The date records when King John took the throne.

13. After the Black Death reduced the population, why could some European workers ask for higher wages?

A. Most workers had suddenly finished university training.
B. Food prices were permanently identical across Europe.
C. European kings abolished every existing wage law.
D. Employers had fewer workers available and had to compete for labor.

14. Which two kingdoms were the main rivals in the Hundred Years’ War?

A. England and France
B. Portugal and Sweden
C. Scotland and Denmark
D. Castile and Norway

15. Which event came last: the coronation of Charlemagne, the Norman conquest depicted at Bayeux, King John’s first charter, or the English statute responding to labor shortages?

A. The Norman conquest of England
B. King John’s first Magna Carta
C. England’s Statute of Labourers
D. Charlemagne’s coronation as emperor