

# Town or a village?

Most people live in towns and cities today. In the Middle Ages, things were different. Although towns existed, there weren't many of them, and the vast majority of people lived and worked in villages.

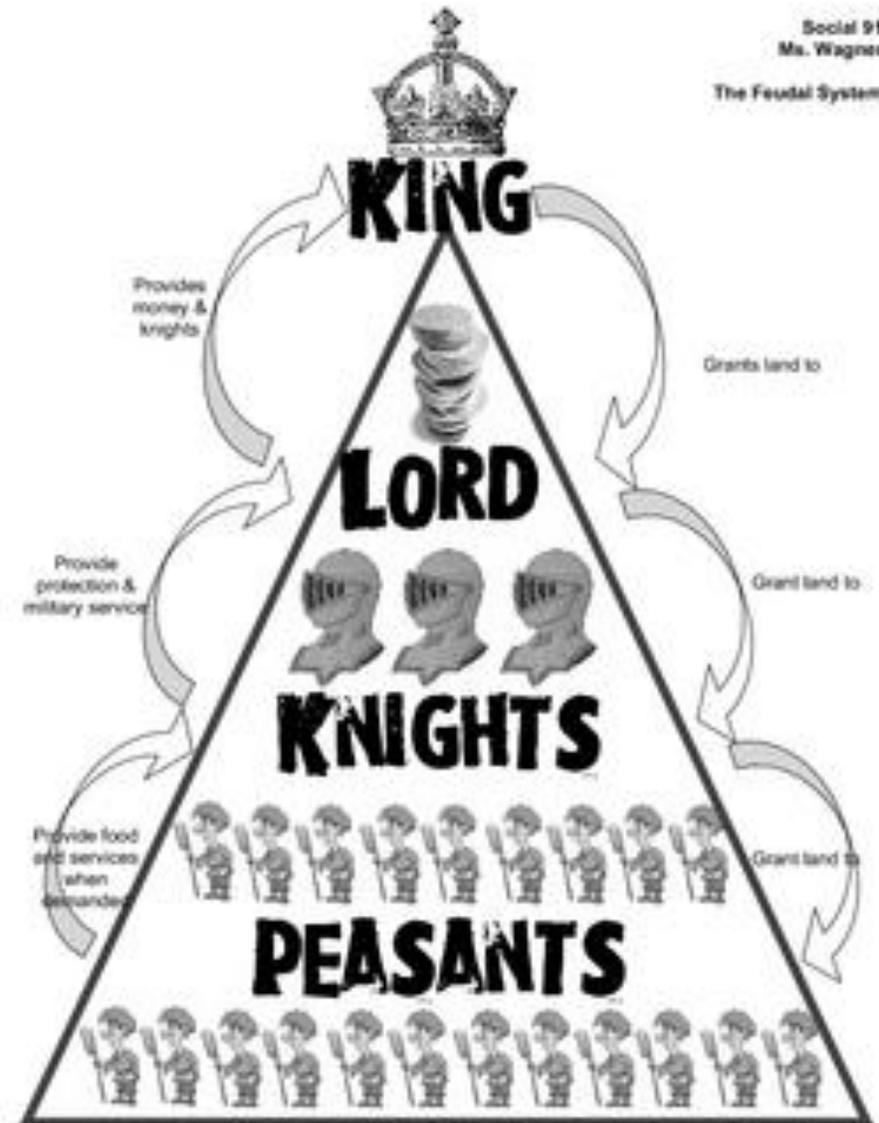
A medieval **village** consisted of villeins who worked on the land owned by the Lord. It was quite self-sufficient and it was rare villeins left the land (they had to ask the Lord's permission).  
Usually had a population of 50-100 people.

A medieval **town** was generally found where major roads met, or near a bridge (somewhere people came to buy and sell goods).  
Towns were known for trading goods. Towns like Winchester and Norwich had a population of 3000 people, whilst London had about 10,000 people living there.

# The Feudal System

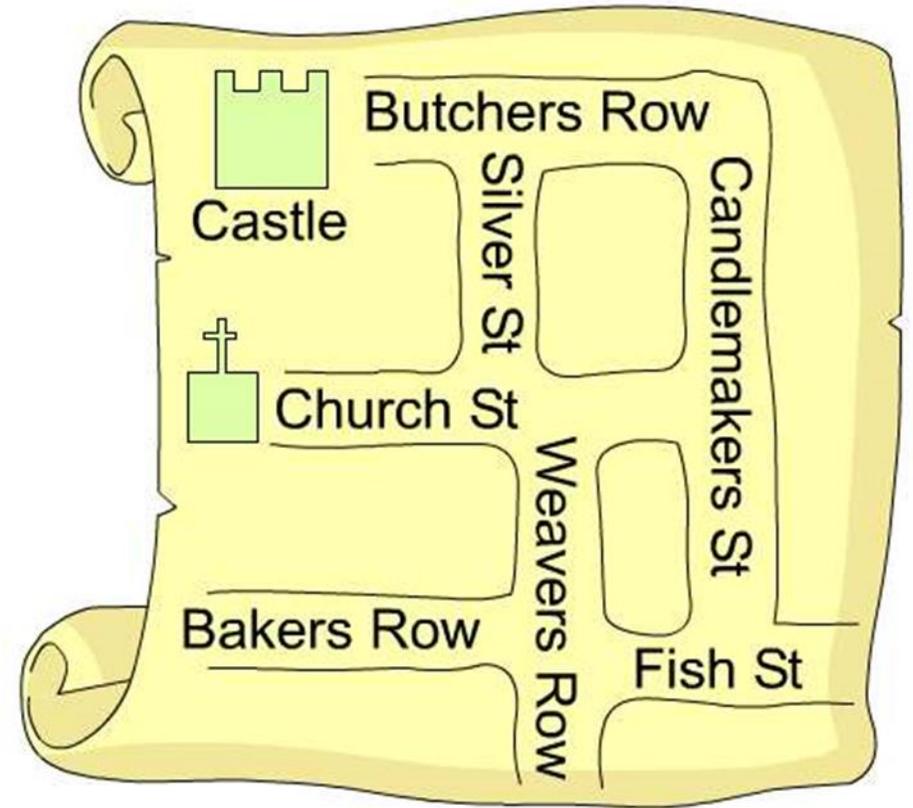
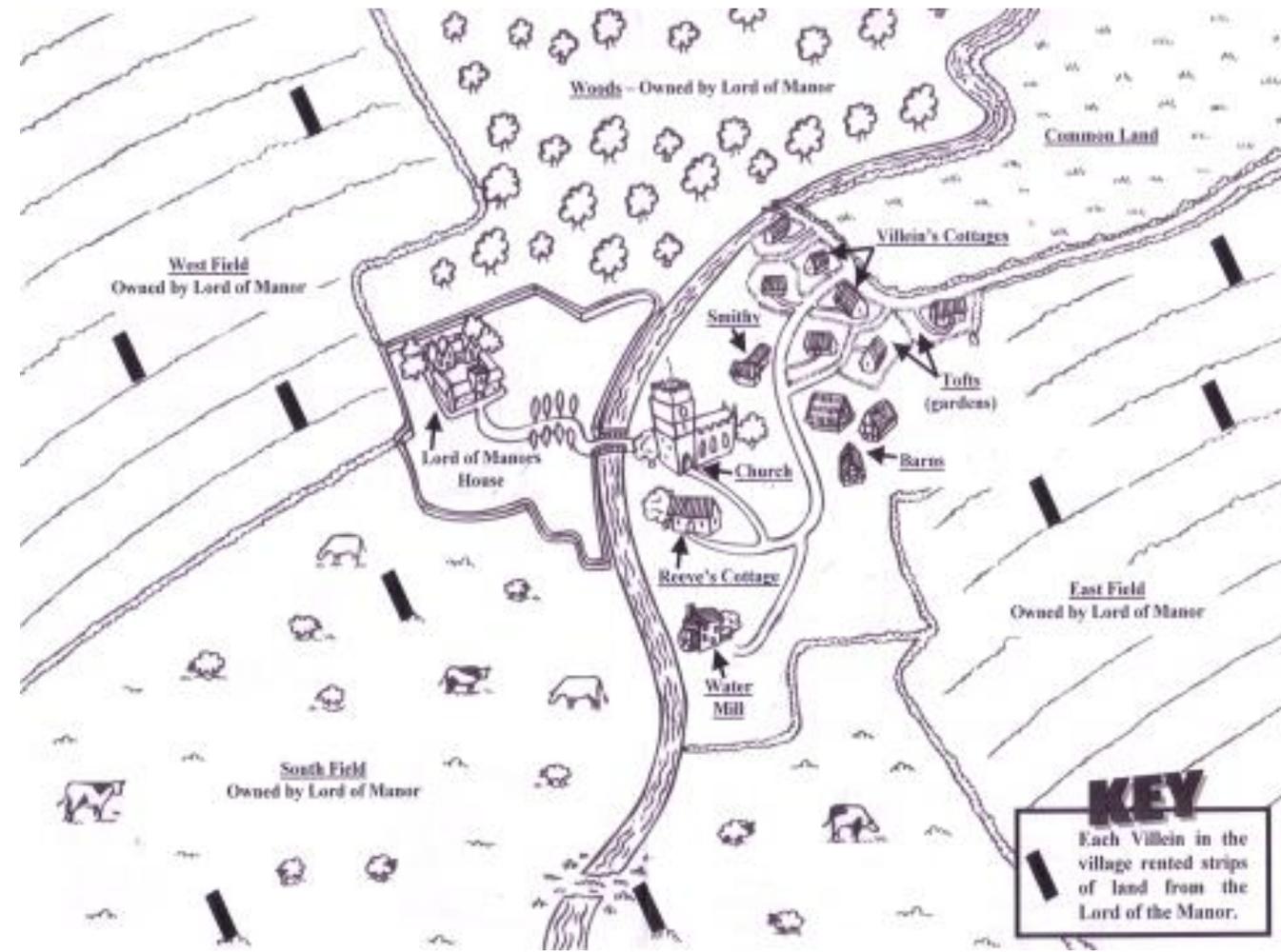
This was introduced by William the Conqueror, as a way of keeping control of England, but remained throughout the Middle Ages!

The peasants were sometimes called villeins or serfs.



read through pages 82 (village) and 86 (towns)

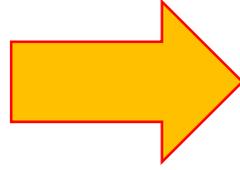
- Look at the images on page 82 and 86 and think about the similarities and differences between a village and a town.



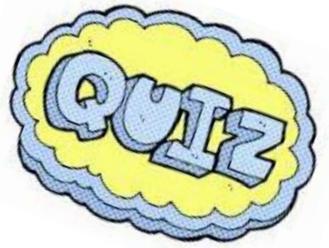
Task – fill in the table using pages 82-85 (villages) and 86-88 (towns).

The first row has been completed for you as an example.

	Medieval village	Medieval town
E.G. 1. What was the population?	<i>Usually had a population of 50-100 people.</i>	<i>Towns like Winchester and Norwich had a population of 3000 people, whilst London had about 10,000 people living there</i>
2. Who owned the land?		
3. Describe some of the roles of those living there		
4. Describe what life might be like for someone in that place.		
5. Who governs (rules) the land?		



## QUICK 6



1	What was the role of peasant villagers in a village?
2	Give two examples of specialist jobs in a village
3	What is “wattle” and “daub”?
4	A town’s freedom was written on a special piece of paper known as what?
5	How often was a market held in towns?
6	Where would the local baron live?

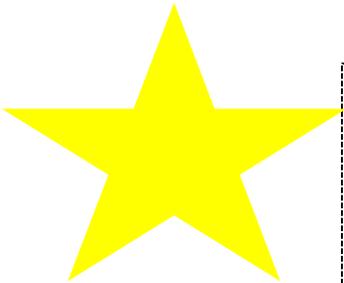
## How similar were medieval towns and villages ?

I think that medieval towns and villages *were/weren't* similar.

One reason I think this is because....

This means that/this shows that.....

Therefore.....



**Challenge - Name an advantage to living in a town and a village**  
**Super challenge -Who do you think might of had the better life?**  
**(Someone who lived in a town or a village). Explain your answer.**