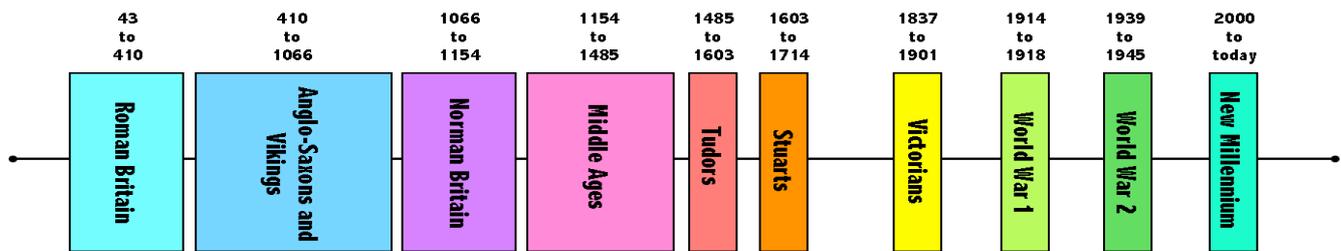


Crime and Punishment: Medieval / Tudor Period

So far, we have looked at the Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. We are now going to look at the Medieval Period. This is the time from the Norman Conquest in 1066 to the start of the Tudor times 1485. Read the information here and then have a go at the tasks. The tasks involve thinking about something or writing something down on paper. If you need any help then please remember to contact me on my email address:

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When the Normans conquered Britain in 1066 they brought newer and harsher punishments with them and abolished the idea of paying compensation. Punishments included having hands cut off and execution. Fine money was given to the King instead of to the victim. Criminals could be put into stocks in the village so that people could throw things at them and people would feel ashamed.

The law changed as time went on during Medieval Times :

Norman Forest Law

The Norman kings set up large forests where they hunted. They took over people's land to do this. If you lived in one of these forests you had to pay money to hunt animals or collect firewood. There were harsh punishments if you were caught doing without paying.

Middle Ages Church Law

Throughout the Middle Ages the church had its own laws and would punish people for things like swearing or not going to church.

End of Middle Ages

Towards the end of the Middle Ages towns and cities were getting bigger and lots of powerful lords used their power to fine and punish people as they liked. This meant the king started to appoint people to control law and order. These were called Justices of the Peace.

Tudor Times

The church in Tudor Times was very rich and powerful. It was led by the Pope who lived in Rome, Italy. Henry VIII broke away from the Catholic Church because he wanted to be the leader of the church and have the power and money for himself. Anyone disagreeing with this could be charged with a crime called heresy and burned at the stake. People could also be tried for treason (plotting against the King) and executed. The Catholic Church had also looked after a lot of poorer people so when the churches were closed these people had no one to look after them which meant they often had to steal food just to eat.

Tasks

If you have some paper, then you can write down your answers. If you don't, then you can still think about your answers.

1. Look again at the crimes and the punishments for the crimes. What do you think of the types of crimes and their punishments in Medieval and Tudor Times? How do they differ from Anglo-Saxon times? What changes can you see from the start of the Medieval times (Norman times 1066) and the end of the Medieval times (Tudor Times 1485).
2. Use the facts that you have learnt so far, the following information about 2 criminals and what they did and anything else that you can find out to create a fact file about Mediaeval and Tudor Crime and Punishment. You can present this however you like but I have given you some ideas of headings. (Copy the notes down onto paper before you start so that you don't have to keep looking at the screen.)

Stories of people and their crimes and punishments	
<p style="text-align: center;">Norman Criminal</p> <p>"Hello, my name is Wulfric. I've just had my hand cut off for poaching the king's deer in the New Forest."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deer were specifically meant for the king and no one else was allowed to eat them.• It was a crime to hunt any animal in the forest, but Wulfric decided to hunt deer.• Wulfric has a wife and family.• He has a little bit of land that he farms, but he has to give some of his food to the lord.• Without his hand he won't be able to farm as well and his family will be even hungrier.	<p style="text-align: center;">Tudor Criminal</p> <p>"Hello, my name is William. I have just been whipped for begging for food or work."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• William is homeless after he was turfed out of his house by a lord who wanted to create a sheep farm.• No one will give him work because they are afraid he is a thief and don't trust him.• He has been hounded out of seven villages because they don't want to have to pay to help him.• There has just been a new law passed to whip beggars and vagabonds if they are found.

Headings ideas

Medieval Times Crimes and Punishments

How Crimes and Punishments Changed from Anglo-Saxon Times (Think about no compensation. New crimes: Norman Forest law; Church Law; Heresy)

How Crimes and Punishments During the Medieval Times

My Opinion of the Types of Crimes and their Punishments. (Do they seem fair? What would life have been like at the time?)