**Medieval Journal**

Challenge 20:

Find each of the 20 numbered info blocks and use the table below to make notes.

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| 1 | Un-finished house - 1. Houses were made of a wooden frame, with the gaps filled with woven strips of wood, known as 'wattle', and covered, or 'daubed', with clay and horse-dung. Most roofs were thatch.  | 11 | Outside Peasents - 11. The medieval peasant's life was hard & the work back breaking. It followed the seasons, ploughing in autumn, sowing in spring, harvesting in August. Work began at dawn & finished at dusk.  |
| 2 | Market entrance - 2. In November the poor would elect a 'lord of misrule', who would wear a paper crown & get up to mischief. At Christmas poor people would go round town demanding traders give them charity.  | 12 | Peasant house - 12. Inside the hut, a third of the area was penned off for the animals, which lived in the hut with the family. A fire burned in a hearth in the centre of the hut, so the air was permanently eye-wateringly smoky. Furniture was maybe a couple of stools, a trunk for bedding, and a few cooking pots.  |
| 3 | Blacksmith - 3. Medieval shops were workshops, open to the street for customers, with the craftsman's house above. Because few people could read, signs were a huge model showing the craftsman's trade.  | 13 | Village Exit - 13. If a serf ran away from his village to a town and remained free for a year and a day, he could become a 'freeman' of the town. |
| 4 | Church - 4. Holy Days would be marked by colourful processions, as the different guilds competed to make the best display.  | 14 | Great hall - 14. The great hall would have at least one fireplace with a chimney. This was a Norman invention and stopped the room filling with smoke.  |
| 5 | Bell tower - 5. At dusk, a bell rang for curfew, when everyone was supposed to shut up their house. The gates to the town would be closed, and a watch would patrol the streets looking for thieves., and apprentices who had stayed out late.  | 15 | Dining hall - 15. Many nobles lived in castles. The great hall was the centre of a castle. The walls were decorated with tapestries. Everyone except the lord sat on benches. There was a minstrel gallery for musicians and singers. At night, the servants slept on the floor.  |
| 6 | 6. Villagers had a tendency to empty chamberpots out of their window. | 16 | Dining hall - 16. Many nobles lived in castles. The great hall was the centre of a castle. The walls were decorated with tapestries. Everyone except the lord sat on benches. There was a minstrel gallery for musicians & singers. At night, the servants slept on the floor.  |
| 7 | Shop in market - 7. The streets of a medieval town were narrow and busy. They were noisy with church bells & traders calling out their wares. There were many food sellers, selling such things as hot sheep's feet & beef-ribs.  | 17 | 17. At the top of the castle, the lady would have a day-room for herself & her maids-in-waiting. This had the largest windows and the best views After 1200, castles had panes of glass in the windows.  |
| 8 | Market - 8. A medieval town would seek a charter giving it the right to become a borough. The rich merchants would then be allowed to choose a mayor and hold a market.  | 18 | 18. A day in the life of a medieval lord. Dawn: Hear Mass, followed by a breakfast of white bread and wine. white bread and wine. …. |
| 9 | Stocks - 9. Nobody was supposed to carry a weapon or wear a mask.  | 19 | 19. The lord had his own room, called the solar, and his own four-poster bed, with curtains for privacy.  |
| 10 | Gallows - 10. Criminals were put in the stocks or the pillory. These were wooden boards with holes for feet, hands or head. Crimes such as theft were punished by hanging.  | 20 | 20. The toilet, also known as the 'garderobe', was usually a chute straight into the moat. One way to capture a castle was to climb up the chute.  |

Questions:

Using your notes from the previous task, answer the questions below.

1. What is different about the peasant’s house compared to all the other houses in
the village
2. What is the significance of the ringing of the church bells?
3. What is the ‘Garderobe’?
4. What crimes would you be sent to the stocks for?
5. What were medieval houses made of?
6. How would a ‘Serf’ become a ‘freeman’?
7. What did villagers do on Holy Days?
8. What is the ‘Lord of missrule’?
9. What is the ‘Solar’ and who used it?
10. What is a ‘Charter’?



18. A day in the life of a medieval lord. Dawn: Hear Mass, followed by a breakfast of white bread and wine. white bread and wine.

Morning: The lord would speak with his reeve, the general manager for his manor. His lady would perhaps do embroidery. Knights and pages would practise fighting.

10am: Lunch was normally half-a-dozen simple dishes, but if the lord was entertaining guests there would be many more dishes as well as entertainments such as jesters, fools and jugglers.

Afternoon: Hunting or hawking, or chess and backgammon if the weather was bad.

Late afternoon: Prayers, then a meal. If there were guests, this would be magnificent.

After supper: Listen to the news & stories brought by a travelling minstrel, or just sit and talk.

Bedtime: When the lord decided he wished to go to bed, the household would have a light supper, say prayers and go to sleep.