Name: _____ Date: _____

# THE CRUSADES

## Reading

The Crusades were military expeditions beginning in the late 11th century, that were organized by western European Christians in response to centuries of Muslim wars of expansion. Their objectives were to check the spread of Islam, to retake control of the Holy Land in the eastern Mediterranean, to conquer pagan areas, and to recapture formerly Christian territories; they were seen by many of their participants as a means of redemption and expiation for sins. Between 1095, when the First Crusade was launched, and 1291, when the Latin Christians were finally expelled from their kingdom in Syria, there were numerous expeditions to the Holy Land, to Spain, and even to the Baltic; the Crusades continued for several centuries after 1291. Crusading declined rapidly during the 16th century with the advent of the Protestant Reformation and the decline of papal authority.

## True or false

a. The crusades were peaceful expeditions organized by Christians.

b. Their objective was to retake control of the Holy Land.

c. The Crusades culminated in 1291.

d. The Holy Land is a territory in Eastern Asia.

e. One of the main motivations of the Crusaders was absolution from sin and eternal glory.

## Match the words with the definitions

1. Christian
2. Holy Land
3. Protestant Reformation
4. Pope
5. Redemption

- Area in the Middle East where the events of the Bible happened.
- The action of saving or being saved from sin, error, or evil.
- The man who is seen as head of the Roman Catholic Church.
- Religious revolution that took place in the Western church in the 16th century. Its greatest leaders undoubtedly were Martin Luther and John Calvin.
- A person who believes in a religion based on the teachings of Jesus Christ.

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**Bibliography**

https://www.britannica.com/event/Crusades

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