History Quiz: Feudalism & The Succession Crisis

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: ____ / 7

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the correct option.

1. What was the primary basis of the feudal system in medieval Europe?

A) Free trade and maritime commerce between independent city-states
B) The exchange of land (fiefs) for military service and loyalty
C) Direct democratic elections held by peasants and artisans
D) Centralized bureaucratic taxation managed by royal governors

2. In the feudal hierarchy, who worked the land and was legally bound to the manor?

A) Knights
B) Barons
C) Serfs
D) Bishops

3. What was a 'fief' in medieval feudal society?

A) A tax paid by merchants to cross a royal bridge
B) A ceremonial sword given to a knight upon completing training
C) An estate of land granted by a lord to a vassal in return for service
D) A written code of chivalry enforced by the Catholic Church

4. What typically triggers a succession crisis in a hereditary monarchy?

A) A monarch dying without a clear, undisputed, or legitimate heir
B) A sudden drop in agricultural harvests across the kingdom
C) The construction of new defensive castles along the border
D) A peace treaty signed between two rival noble families

5. Whose death in January 1066 sparked the famous English Succession Crisis?

A) William the Conqueror
B) Edward the Confessor
C) Richard the Lionheart
D) Henry VIII

6. Who were the three main claimants to the English throne during the 1066 succession crisis?

A) King John, Simon de Montfort, and Prince Edward
B) Alfred the Great, Canute the Great, and Ethelred the Unready
C) Harold Godwinson, William of Normandy, and Harald Hardrada
D) Henry II, Thomas Becket, and Geoffrey of Anjou

7. Which decisive battle ended the 1066 English succession crisis and established Norman rule?

A) The Battle of Agincourt
B) The Battle of Hastings
C) The Battle of Bannockburn
D) The Battle of Bosworth Field

Answer Key: **1: B** | **2: C** | **3: C** | **4: A** | **5: B** | **6: C** | **7: B**

LIVEWORKSHEETS