



How Did Cities Develop?

Medieval Cities

At the end of the twelfth century, cities became very important in Europe. Some old cities expanded quickly, and new cities were founded along trade routes and major **crossroads**.

The main reasons for the **growth** of cities were:

- › Many farm workers were **unemployed** due to agricultural innovations. They went to the cities to look for work.
- › To escape serfdom—peasants who lived in a city for one year were freed from their obligations to feudal lords.
- › Many merchants moved into the cities looking for protection inside the city walls.

The urban society was formed by different types of **inhabitants**, such as:

- › The elite that was made up of **wealthy** merchant and artisan families.
- › Ordinary people like artisans, shopkeepers, house servants, and students.
- › Poor people who didn't have jobs and had to beg or steal to survive.

Most of the population were Christians. Muslims and Jews were **minorities** and had to live in separate neighborhoods.



Drag the words in bold to complete the sentences.

1. A synonym of rich is _____.
2. The 1990s were a period of rapid _____.
3. How many _____ are there in Moscow?
4. African Americans, American Indians and Alaska Natives, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and Hispanics are examples of _____.
5. When you don't have a job you are _____.
6. The two vans collided at the _____.



04 Match the halves to make full sentences.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Merchants who move into the cities | a. it can't be one of the more important ones. |
| 2. Unemployed farm workers | b. must be looking to expand their stock because they will find the connections there. |
| 3. This city isn't built on a crossroad or trade route. | c. might move to the cities to look for jobs. |
| 4. To escape poverty in rural places, people | d. can't keep farming the land. |

Unscramble the words to make sentences

1. families / must / medieval / Wealthy / elite / urban / societies / in / to / be / have / power / enough / the

2. people / steal / food / they / Poor / beg / might / because / don't / have / or / for / jobs

3. can't / Jews / minorities / and / the / they / Muslims / neighborhoods / live / Christians / are / the / in / same / as



Social Studies

What Were Cities in the Middle Ages Like?

This is Real Medieval Life



Cities were big places **surrounded** by walls. At night, gates were kept closed for protection. The main buildings were the city hall, cathedral, market, hospital, school, and palace. Each city was **divided** into parishes, or districts, often named after a patron saint.

Cities were very unhealthy places: people threw their trash and **waste** in the streets, and **domestic** animals moved freely. Due to this, diseases spread quickly. Also, houses and buildings were made of wood, so fires were frequent occurrences.

In the Middle Ages, most products were made by hand. The people who made them were called artisans. Each artisan **specialized** in a particular product, like shoes, bread, clothes, furniture, etc. These were sold in workshops.

There were three stages of becoming an artisan:

- › Apprentices worked for master artisans, learning the trade with no pay. They lived in the artisan's house and were **provided** with food and clothes.
- › Journeymen were young men who received a salary and worked for different masters.
- › Masters were the owners of workshops.

02 Read "This Is Real Medieval Life." Answer the questions using a complete sentence in the space below.

How were cities protected?

Why were cities unhealthy?

How were cities divided?

Who were the artisans?



05 Match the halves to make full contrasting sentences.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Cities were surrounded by walls, | a. whereas in the Middle Ages, cities were unhealthy places to live in. |
| 2. While cathedrals were made of stone, | b. whereas small towns and farms were left unprotected. |
| 3. Nowadays, we know how to keep a healthy environment, | c. most houses were made of wood. |
| 4. While diseases spread quickly in the Middle Ages, | d. nowadays, we have organizations to control that. |



Social Studies

Did People in the Middle Ages Want Something More?

The Reborn

Renaissance is a revived or renewed interest in something. Also known as the High Middle Ages, it was a period of change and growth in technology, social organization, education, and **literacy**. In this period, people were open to new ideas and ways of doing things. Gothic architecture was created and was mainly used in churches and cathedrals.

The world was under religious control, mainly Christianity. People who were trying to learn new things turned to the church for **guidance**. Although many of the leaders of the church did not support this movement, they could not fight it.

Students in the twelfth century read and studied Latin texts, Roman law, the works of Christian priests, **translated** Greek manuscripts, and Arabic texts of medicine and math.

Most peasants **sought** learning as a way to change their **status** and obtain better job opportunities. Due to the thirst for knowledge, the first university was built in Italy, *universitas* is Latin for "a whole."

This period ended due to the **crisis** of the fourteenth century, or the late Middle Ages.



02 Read "The Reborn" and circle the options that complete the statements correctly.

1. architecture was created in the Middle Ages.
a. Art Nuveau **b.** Gothic **c.** Roccocco
2. The world in the Middle Ages was under control.
a. religious **b.** alien **c.** arabic
3. People who wanted to learn new things sought guidance from the .
a. rulers **b.** artisans **c.** church
4. The first was built in Italy in the twelfth century.
a. hospital **b.** university **c.** cathedral
5. Peasants wanted to change their .
a. status **b.** jobs **c.** families



03 Read the text again and match the words with their definition.

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------------|--|
| 1. literacy | <input type="text"/> | a. wanted, looked for |
| 2. guidance | <input type="text"/> | b. time of difficulty, trouble, or danger |
| 3. translated | <input type="text"/> | c. social standing, position, or classification |
| 4. sought | <input type="text"/> | d. advice or counsel |
| 5. status | <input type="text"/> | e. ability to read and write |
| 6. crisis | <input type="text"/> | f. expressed words in another language |



05 Match the halves to make full sentences.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Renaissance means renewed interest | a. Romans, Christian priests, and Arab authors. |
| 2. The people were under | b. to an oncoming crisis. |
| 3. Students were interested in texts written by | c. in something. |
| 4. The Renaissance period ended due | d. the church's control. |
| 5. Peasants sought knowledge to | e. change their social status. |