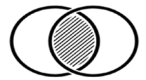


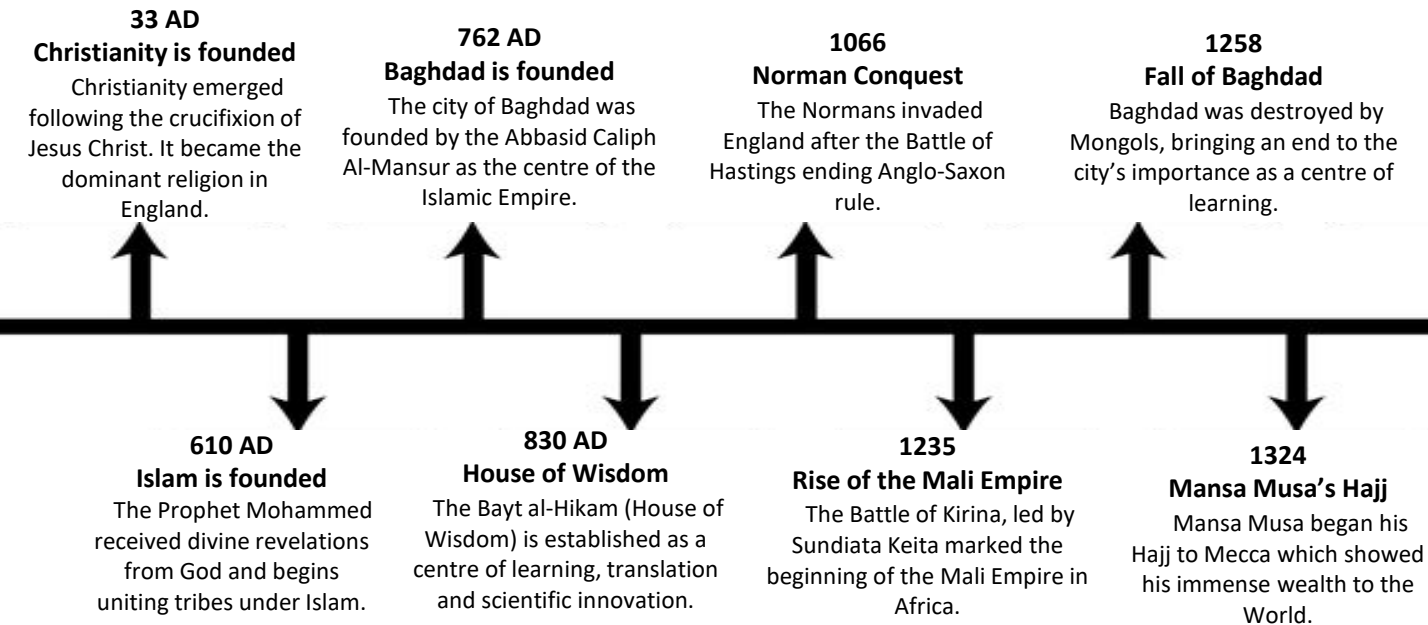
Knowledge Organiser: How different was life across the Medieval World?



Topic Summary:

By the early 1400s, Europeans had made some amazing discoveries about the world and had begun to trade with different countries in Africa and Asia. In this unit you will find out about and compare the similarities and differences between three key medieval civilisations in England, Mali and the Islamic Empire.



Key Dates:



Key People:

	<p>The Prophet Mohammed (570-632) The founder of Islam. His teachings led the foundation of the Islamic Faith and influence the development of the Islamic World.</p>
	<p>Al-Mansur (714-775) The second Abbasid Caliph. He established the city of Baghdad as a centre for learning.</p>
	<p>Al Rhazes (854-925) An important physician based in Baghdad. He challenged Galen's ideas about the Theory of the Four Humours. He believed doctors should observe patients.</p>
	<p>Ibn Sina (980-1037) An important physician (doctor) based in the Islamic Empire. He wrote an influential book called the 'Canon of Medicine' which described 760 diseases</p>
	<p>Sundiata Keita (1217-1255) The founder of the Mali Empire. He united the region and established Mali as a powerful and prosperous state in West Africa.</p>
	<p>Mansa Musa (1280-1337) An emperor of Mali between 1312-1337. He is thought to be the richest man who ever lived due to owning vast amounts of gold.</p>

Vocabulary:

Medieval		A period in history that lasted between the years 500 to 1500. Sometimes called the 'Middle Ages' between ancient and modern times.
Civilisation		A society with its own government, laws, culture, writing and way of life.
Empire		A group of countries or areas ruled by one person or government.
Caliph		A leader of the Muslim world who was considered the political and religious successor to the Prophet Mohammed.
Mansa		The title for a ruler in the Mali Empire.
Scholar		A person who studies a lot and has done advance study in a particular subject.
Merchant		A person who buys and sells goods, usually for profit.
Trade		The act of buying, selling or exchanging goods between people or countries.
Hajj		An Islamic Pilgrimage (holy journey) to Mecca that Muslims try to make once in their life.
Islam		A religion followed by Muslims, based on the teachings of the Prophet Muhammed, who believe in one God (Allah).

Core Knowledge:

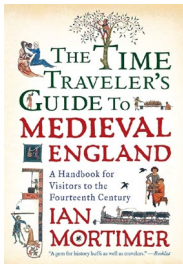
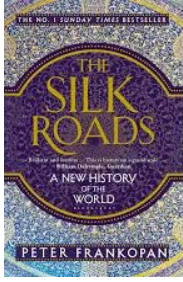
Lesson 1: What was known about the Medieval World?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Medieval Period lasted from the years 500-1500.In this time period, many different empires and kingdoms existed across Europe, Asia and Africa. However, not much was known about the continent of North America, South America and Oceania as they had not been discovered so weren't included on maps.In this topic you will compare the similarities and differences between Medieval England, Medieval Baghdad and Medieval Mali.
Lesson 2: How different was life in Medieval England?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">At this time Medieval England included land in England, parts of Ireland, Wales and France.In 1066, the population of England was approximately 2 million but grew to over 4 million by 1400.90% of the population lived in small villages in the countryside which was centred around a manor.10% of the population lived in towns and cities which were centres of trade.London was the largest town with between 10,000-40,000 people living there.Houses were simple, often made of wattle and daub with thatched roofs. Wealthier families lived in stone houses or castles.Christianity was the main religion and every town and village had a Church to worship God.
Lesson 3: How different was life in Medieval Baghdad?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Islamic Empire stretched from Spain to India, encompassing a population of 50 million.The city of Baghdad was one of the largest cities in the world with a population of 1 million.The city of Baghdad was built in a perfect circle with high walls and a Great Mosque at the centre.Baghdad was a centre of trade and most people were merchants and craftsmen.Houses were simple and often had courtyards.Baghdad was destroyed during a Mongol invasion in 1258.Islam was the main religion of the Islamic Empire however, it was incredibly diverse and brought together many different religions, cultures and ethnicities.
Lesson 4: How different was life in Medieval Mali?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mali was one of the most powerful states in West Africa with a population of 7 million.It spanned modern day Mali, Senegal, Gambia Guinea, Ivory Coast, Niger and Mauritania.The empire was home to many ethnic groups such as Mandinka, Soninke, Fulani and Tuareg.Major cities of Mali included Timbuktu and Niani which were centres of trade and education.Most people lived in small villages and would farm the land.Houses were made of mud bricks with thatched roofs to keep the inside cool from the sun.Islam was the main religion of Medieval Mali.
Lesson 5: How different was society and government across the Medieval World?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Medieval England was ruled over by a King. There was a clear hierarchy called the Feudal System where land was given in return for loyalty and service. It contained Lords, Knights and two types of peasants called freeman and villeins. However, a new class of merchants and traders were beginning to emerge. There was no organised police force to prevent crime instead local people had to raise a 'hue and cry' to chase the criminal. Trials by ordeal were held to see if a person was innocent or guilty – these were often unfair. The Church also held a lot of power and influence in people's lives.Medieval Baghdad was ruled over by a Caliph (chief ruler). Baghdad also had a strict hierarchy this included Sultans (military leaders), Shaykhs (Religious leaders/scholars), merchants, peasants and slaves. There was a police force called the Kuttab which would deal with crimes. Islam had a large influence on people's lives as they followed Sharia law and prayed 5 times a day.Medieval Mali was ruled over by the Mansa. It also had a strict hierarchy which included the Ferba (governors), nobles/military leaders, scribes, farmers, merchants and slaves. Farmers were greatly prized as they grew food for everyone. The law was based on the Manden Charter which gave everyone human rights such as the right to life and protection. Islam also had an important influence on people's lives and they prayed 5 times a day.



<p>Lesson 6: How different was trade and travel across the Medieval World?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade was an important part of life in Medieval England. Towns were centres of trade and would hold markets every week. Many people travelled from the countryside to towns to exchange their goods. England also traded with nearby countries such as France, Belgium, Netherlands and Germany. They traded items such as iron, salt, lead, fish, wool, grain, cattle and honey. Baghdad was positioned in the centre of the silk roads and therefore was an important trading centre. There were huge Bazaars (markets) where people would come together to trade goods. Baghdad connected important trading routes with countries such as India, China, Egypt, Italy, England. Many different items such as silk, paper, iron, tea, cotton, gemstones, ivory, herbs, spices, dates, nuts, and animal furs were traded there. However, people would also trade ideas and technology in religion, medicine, science, maths, navigation as well as new inventions like gunpowder and the compass. Medieval Mali was also an important centre of trade. Goods would be sent from Mali across the Sahara desert by a collection of camels called caravans or along the Niger river to Europe and Asia. The most important industry for Mali was the gold. African gold was famous and would be traded worldwide to make coins and decorations. Salt was also important and was used to preserve meat and corpses.
<p>Lesson 7: How different was education across the Medieval World?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medieval England is often called the 'Dark Ages' as there was very little learning or experimentation that took place. Education was controlled by the Church. Many schools were set up in monasteries but they focused on religious ideas and lessons were Latin. Some Grammar Schools were set up in towns but these were expensive so most children could not afford to go. Instead of school, most medieval children learned how to farm and tend animals. Most of the population were illiterate and very few girls were educated. Medieval Baghdad is often referred to as a 'Golden Age' for education as lots of new ideas and experimentation took place. A large library known as the House of Wisdom was established which attracted scholars from around the world and preserved knowledge in many languages. Baghdad became a centre of learning and education was highly valued with everyone being taught to read and write so they could read the Quran. Many advancements were made in Maths, Science and Medicine. Mansa Musa also valued learning. When he returned from his Hajj from Mecca, he brought back thousands of scholars to Mali. Timbuktu became a centre of learning with Madrassas (education centres), libraries, archives, mosques. The University of Sankore held 700,000 books and was the largest library in Africa.
<p>Lesson 8: How different was health and medicine across the Medieval World?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicine in England was influenced by the teachings of Hippocrates and Galen. It was believed that the body had four humours: blood, black bile, yellow bile and phlegm and you would become unwell if the humours were imbalanced. Hospitals were controlled by the Church. Monks and Nuns would care for the sick in monasteries but they focused on religious treatments rather than medicine. Only the rich could afford to be seen by a physician (doctor) so many people were cared for by women in their family or community. Medicine in Medieval Baghdad was highly advanced and drew on Islamic teachings of cleanliness. Scholars such as Al-Rhazes and Ibn Sina criticised the Theory of the Four Humours and encouraged doctors to observe their patients. Muslim doctors experimented with different drugs and herbs to find medicinal treatments and they were very skilled in surgery in optics and dentistry. Bimaristans hospitals were set up to treat patients and included libraries, pharmacies, surgery wards, a mosque and a chapel.
<p>Enquiry Outcome:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You will create a 'Time travellers guide' to the Medieval World which compares different aspects of life in two medieval civilisations. You need to explain in detail the similarities and differences between Medieval England and Baghdad or Medieval England and Mali.

What do historians say?

How can I find out more?

	<p><i>The Time Travellers Guide to Medieval England – Ian Mortimer</i></p> <p><i>The Time Travellers Guide to Medieval England gives a detailed look at life in the 14th century as if you were actually visiting the past. It describes the daily routines of medieval people as well as information about clothes, food and medicine. It also explains what life was like for different social classes and what life was like in towns and villages. It focuses on the lives of ordinary people rather than just the rich.</i></p>
	<p><i>The Silk Roads: A New History of the World – Peter Frankopan</i></p> <p><i>This book explores how trade routes connected Europe, Asia and Africa during the medieval period. It highlights Baghdad as a centre of learning and trade during its 'Golden Age'. It also mentions Mali's wealth and importance in trans-Saharan trade and shows how not just goods but ideas and knowledge were shared.</i></p>

<p>BBC Bitesize:</p>	
<p>Medieval England</p>	
<p>BBC Bitesize:</p>	
<p>Medieval Islamic Empire</p>	
<p>BBC Bitesize:</p>	
<p>Medieval Mali</p>	