


Knowledge organiser: The problems of medieval monarchs

The reigns and problems of medieval kings and queens, 1135–1485		Chronology: what happened on these dates?		Vocabulary: define these words	
		1135	Stephen became king, which led to civil war	Baron	A rich and powerful noble.
Summarise your learning		1173	Eleanor of Aquitaine rebelled against her husband, Henry II	Civil War	A war between people in the same country.
Topic 1: How did their reigns end?	Strong medieval kings tended to die of natural causes.	1216	King John was forced to accept the terms of Magna Carta	Independent	A country that rules itself and isn't controlled by another country.
Topic 2: Matilda's opportunity	Matilda, the first woman to claim the throne of England, was usurped by her cousin Stephen, leading to civil war.	1275	Edward I invited knights and burgesses to parliament	Magna Carta	A document sealed in 1216 limiting the power of the king by law.
Topic 3: Eleanor of Aquitaine	Eleanor of Aquitaine was a strong woman who successfully stood up to both her husbands.	1314	The Battle of Bannockburn	Monarch	A king or queen.
				Parliament	The most powerful barons and Church leaders who advised the king.
		Who or what were these people/events?			
		'The Anarchy'	The period of civil war between Matilda and Stephen	Queen	A female ruler of a country.
Topic 4: King John	John was an unpopular king and his barons forced him to sign Magna Carta.	Eleanor of Aquitaine	Wife of Henry II, she was mother of Richard I and King John	Rebellion	Armed resistance to the leader of a country.
		Magna Carta	A document sealed in 1216 limiting the power of the king by law	Throne	The special chair used by a monarch.
Topic 5: Edward I	Edward I dealt well with parliament and the Church and conquered Wales.	Robert the Bruce	Became king of Scotland and defeated the English at Bannockburn	Usurp	To take control by power or force without having the right to.
Topic 6: Losing Scotland	Edward I conquered Scotland, but Robert the Bruce won independence.	Owain Glyndwr	Called himself Prince of Wales and led a rebellion against Henry IV	