

The Serf

Viewing Guide

Answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper as you watch the film. You do not need to write in complete sentences.

1. Who were serfs? What important role did they play during the Middle Ages?
2. What was the connection between medieval lords and serfs?
3. What were the similarities between medieval serfs and peasants? Differences?
4. Describe the typical home of a serf during the Middle Ages.
5. What were some of the medieval serfs' work responsibilities?
6. What was a book of hours?
7. What was the life of a serf child like?
8. How could a person be released from being a serf?
9. Describe the peasant revolts of the 1300s. Why did they occur? Were they successful?
10. How did the Black Death affect the position of the serfs?
11. What did serfs do for entertainment?

Critical Thinking Questions: After the film is complete, choose ONE of the following questions and answer in a short paragraph.

- A. Compare the pros and cons of being a serf during the Middle Ages. Do you feel the benefits outweighed the costs or vice versa?
- B. Compare peasants and serfs. Which would you have preferred to be, and why?