

Name: _____

Homework Due _____

Who was Charlemagne and what was his importance to the Middle Ages?

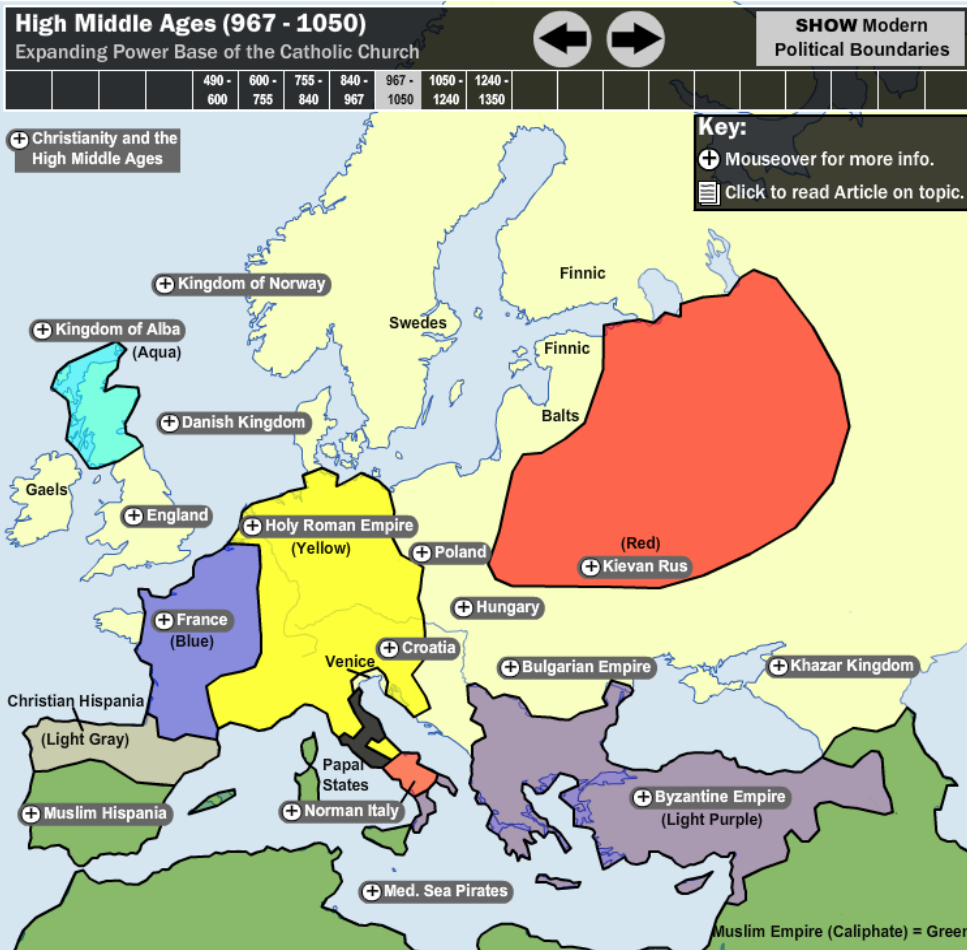
In the movie Transformers, cars and other machines convert into enormous robots that take over the world.

Part of speech: _____

1) Write your own definition for the word **convert** :

2) Write your own sentence for the word **convert**:

Document A



3) The map's subheading is *expanding power base of the Catholic Church*. How does this map help us understand what is happening in Europe during this time period?

Who Was Charlemagne? After Pepin died, his son Charles became king. Like his father, Charles went to the aid of the pope when the Lombards tried to regain their territory. He also invaded eastern Germany and defeated the Saxons living there. He ordered them to convert to Christianity. He then invaded Spain and gained control of the northeastern corner from the Muslims.

By A.D. 800, Charles's kingdom had grown into an empire. It covered much of western and central Europe. Charles's



Charlemagne (SHAHR•luh•MAYNE), or Charles the Great.

The pope was impressed with Charlemagne. On Christmas day in A.D. 800, Charlemagne was worshiping at the church of St. Peter in Rome. After the service, the pope placed a crown on Charlemagne's head and declared him the new Roman emperor. Charlemagne was pleased but also concerned. He did not want people to think the pope had the power to choose who was emperor.

Charlemagne made **Aachen** (AH•kuhn) the capital of his empire. To uphold his

laws, he set up courts throughout the empire. Nobles called counts ran the courts. To keep the counts under control, Charlemagne sent out inspectors called "the lord's messengers" to make sure the counts conducted their duties properly.

Unlike other earlier Frankish rulers, Charlemagne believed in education. He had tried late in life to learn to write and wanted his people to be educated too. He asked a scholar named Alcuin (AL•kwuhn) to start a school in one of the royal palaces. Alcuin trained the children of government officials. His students studied religion, Latin, music, literature, and arithmetic.

4) How did Charles earn the name of Charlemagne? What does Charlemagne mean?

5) How did the pope show Charlemagne that he was happy with his work as a leader?

6) Find a quote from the passage that shows the reader that Charlemagne valued education:

Document C



Document D

Europe Is Invaded After Charlemagne died in A.D. 814, his empire did not last long. His son Louis was not a strong leader, and after Louis died, Louis's sons divided the empire into three kingdoms.

These three kingdoms were weakened further by a wave of invaders who swept across Europe in the A.D. 800s and A.D. 900s. From the south came Muslims, who raided France and Italy from Spain and North Africa. From the east came the Magyars, a nomadic people who had settled in Hungary. From **Scandinavia** (SKAN • duh • NAY • vee • uh) came the Vikings, whose raids terrified all of Europe.

Scandinavia is in northern Europe. Norway, Sweden, and Denmark are all part of Scandinavia today. Much of Scandinavia

has a long, jagged coastline. It has many **fjords** (fee • AWRDS), or steep-sided valleys that are inlets of the sea. The Viking people lived in villages in the fjords. They were known as the Norsemen, or "north men."

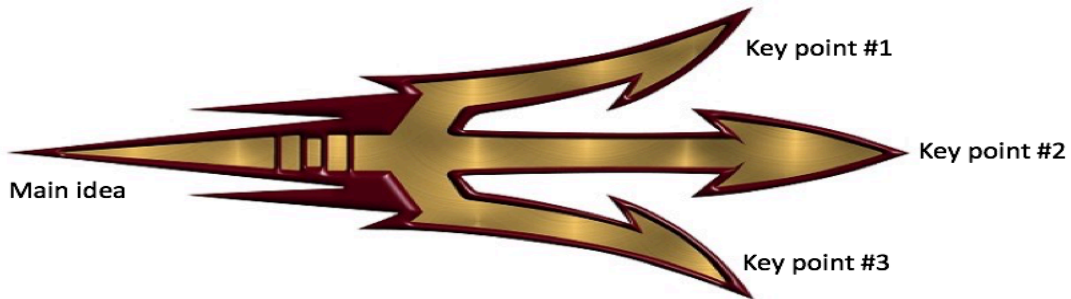
Scandinavia has little farmland. This forced the Vikings to rely on the sea for food and trade. They became skilled sailors and built sturdy boats called longboats. These boats could survive the rough Atlantic and also navigate shallow rivers.

In the A.D. 700s and A.D. 800s, the Vikings began raiding Europe, probably because their population had grown too big to support itself at home. The word *viking* comes from their word for raiding. They robbed villages and churches, carrying off grain, animals, and anything else of value. They even conquered part of western France. This area was named Normandy, after the Norsemen who ruled it.

9) What were the reasons that Charlemagne's empire ended?

Write a claim that answers the question:

How should Charlemagne be remembered in history?



Quick check list for claims:

- My claim is a complete sentence (no "it" or "he/she" or "they")
- My claim takes a position: It is clear to the reader that I have come to a conclusion about the topic and the rest of my essay would be the explanation of that conclusion
- My claim explains my position/opinion in an academic argument **with at least 3 key points**
- My claim is arguable it can be backed up with evidence, quotations, argumentation, expert opinion, statistics, and telling details from the sources I have to work with

0	1	2	3	4
Please complete in and turn in as soon as possible	Some major errors. Answers to questions are incomplete, claim does not meet the requirements	Needs to undergo revisions. Questions have been answered, but claim does not show an understanding of the impact that Charlemagne had on history	You mostly have it! Answers to questions show an understanding of the impact of Charlemagne and claim is accurate	