

## VIII Knights and Lords

### Becoming a knight

When a boy was seven or eight years old he began knighthood training. The boy learnt necessary skills to become a **knight** such as **archery**, **fencing**, and **horsemanship**.

At the age of fifteen he went to the castle of a friend or relative to begin his training as a **page**. The older knight taught him how to fight in battles, how to care for horses, hunting and falconry, and also gentlemanly behaviour.

At the age of eighteen the page became a **squire**. Now he could go into combat with the knight who had trained him. Then he served as a shield bearer and carried the master's armour and shield. The squire had to prove himself worthy before he was officially made a **knight**.

Some squires never became knights. At the age of 21 squires entered knighthood in a simple ceremony celebrated in the tower. The squire knelt down and the lord touched him on the shoulder with the blade of his sword and said, "I dub<sup>1</sup> thee knight."

After the ceremony, some presents were given to the knight.

#### 1. Read the text and complete the sentences [squire, knights, page]

- A \_\_\_\_\_ was a boy in training for knighthood and attached to a knight's service.
- A \_\_\_\_\_ carried the knight's armour and shield.
- In Medieval Europe \_\_\_\_\_ gave military service to the kings.

#### 2. Becoming a knight.<sup>2</sup>

Match the items on the right to the items on the left.

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. Fencing      | The breeding and training of hawks or falcons.  |
| 2. Archery      | The sport of fighting with a sword.             |
| 3. Horsemanship | Shooting with a bow and arrows.                 |
| 4. Hunting      | The art of riding on horseback.                 |
| 5. Falconry     | The practice of pursuing and killing an animal. |

<sup>1</sup> To dub means name.

<sup>2</sup> Visit this website and write about a knight <http://www.mnsu.edu/emuseum/history/middleages/knight.html>

## The knight's armour

The medieval knight was from a privileged social class and was allowed to wear armour. Knights trained from an early age to defend the property and honour of their king, and during the Crusades, they fought for Christian faith.

In times of peace, knights fought in tournaments and jousts to keep themselves in practice for warfare. For all these knightly activities, two major possessions were required - a horse and a set of armour.

Medieval knights wore a thick, padded undergarment to protect their skin from the heavy armour. Sometimes horses wore armour. On other occasions, the horse was dressed in decorative tassels and other trim.

### 1. Answer the questions

1. Who wore armour in medieval times?
2. When did knights start their training?
3. Where did they fight in times of peace?
4. What did a knight need to fight?
5. What did knights wear under the armour?
6. What was this for?
7. What did horses wear to protect themselves?
8. What other things did horses sometimes wear?

2. Use the internet<sup>3</sup> to help you to match the words on the left with the correct clues on the right.

**Words**

**Clues**

1. Shield	a. A steel covering for the foot.
2. Helmet	b. Used as a leg protector.
3. Gauntlets	c. Defences for the thigh that laced to the body.
4. Sabatons	d. An armoured glove.
5. Mail skirt	e. With the backplate formed the cuirass.
6. Cuisses	f. Head protection for a knight.
7. Greaves	g. A piece of armour carried on the hands to protect.
8. Breastplate	h. A metal weapon with a hand guard and a long blade.
9. Sword	i. A piece worn around the waist to protect the groin.

3. Armour's parts. Unscramble each of the clue words. Write each word in your language.

**DEIHSL**

**SOTSANBA**

**MELETH**

**NEULGTAT**

**SRDOW**

**ASLEEBATTRP**

**LAMI SIRKT**

**RAASEBCB**

**RAGSEEV**

**SIUSCSE**

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<sup>3</sup> Visit these webs:

A game about a knight <http://www.humanities-interactive.org/medieval/chivalry/game/>

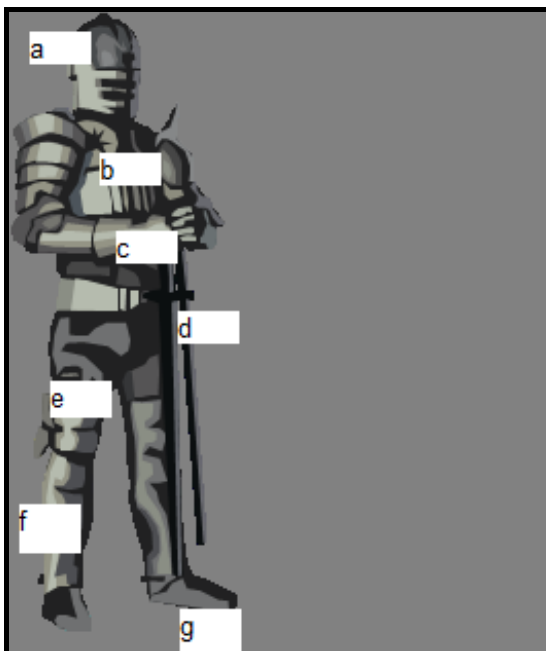
Dress a knight and matching game <http://www.ictgames.com/knightinarmour.html>

4. Write about the knight's armour: describe the different parts. Use an encyclopaedia or the Internet.

5. In pairs write a final glossary.

6. Write the names on the right of the armour. Use the word bank

HELMET GAUNTLETS SABATONS CUISSES GREAVES BREASTPLATE SWORD



- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)
- f)
- g)

## Berenguer d'Entença I (1256-1294)

"I am Berenguer I d'Entença, a **baron**, and the only son of Guillem d'Entença and Alamanda, the **heiress** of Castellvell **barony**. When I was very young, 14 years old, I inherited my mother's lands and castles in Móra d'Ebre, Miravet and Falset (Tarragona). Now the **fief** is called Entença's barony and I am the first baron.

I am married to Galbors, a fine lady. We live in Móra d'Ebre's castle. We have twelve children. My eldest son, Guillem, is going to become heir to Entença's barony. Our daughter, Saurina is married to Roger de Llúria, a very brave knight trained in the Catalan **Court**. Berenguer, my other son, has also been trained as a knight and he is fighting with Roger de Flor and his **brother-in-law**, Roger de Llúria, for the Aragon Crown against Constantinople".

### 1. Write the Wh- questions for the following answers.

His mother is Alamanda de Castellvell.

His father is Guillem d'Entença.

Galbors married to Berenguer.

He inherited three castles.

They had twelve children

They were called Guillem, Saurina and Berenguer.

She was married to Roger de Llúria, a knight.

### 2. Make a vertical [timeline](#)<sup>4</sup>.

Guillem d'Entença I and Alamanda married in 1242

Alamanda died in 1246

Berenguer d'Entença I (1256-1294)

Guillem II d'Entença (1291-1321)

Berenguer d'Entença (died in 1306?)

Roger de Llúria (1250- 1305)

Roger de Flor (1266-1305)

<sup>4</sup> Visit this link [http://www.teach-nology.com/web\\_tools/materials/timelines/](http://www.teach-nology.com/web_tools/materials/timelines/)



1. Mora d'Ebre castle, on the top right.

**3. Write 3 meaningful sentences using the vocabulary.**

*Eg. Guillem d'Entença is the son of Berenguer I.*

BROTHER-IN-LAW

MOTHER /FATHER

SON / DAUGHTER

**4. Online search. Pair work. Write the meaning of the following words.**

FIEF	HEIRESS	BARONY	BARON	COURT	BROTHER-IN-LAW
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**5. Write a phrase using each word to explain the relevance of each word in Berenguer d'Entença's story. Use your note-book.**

*E.g. The fief was called Entença's Barony.*

**6. Draw a family tree of the Entença family. Use your notebook.**

**7. Make an ACROSTIC POEM: examples in Catalan and in English.**

*En el castell de Móra*

*Ebre River has*

*No lluny del*

*Not only a castle but also*

*Tot d'un riu,*

*Towers next to it.*

*Ebre li diuen i*

*Ebre River*

*No el criden per altre nom*

*Never stops watching in*

*Casa Entença,*

*Case enemies*

*Anys passats s'hi fundà.*

*Appear.*



**Make an ACROSTIC POEM about Entença's family.**

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**8. MEDIEVAL MAZE: the knight needs to catch the dragon**

