Crusades and Crowns

Trace how motives for the Crusades led to different consequences.

WH.3.4 "Explain the cultural, political, economic, and religious causes of the Crusades and their consequences for Europe and Southwest Asia, including the growth in power of the monarchies in Europe."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two reasons people joined or supported the Crusades, circle two effects in Southwest Asia, and number two ways crusading could strengthen European kings.

Why People Went, What Changed

1. In 1095, Pope Urban II called for a campaign to aid the Byzantine Empire against Turkish forces and to take Jerusalem, sacred to Christians. Many European Christians saw fighting as a religious duty and hoped for spiritual reward. Pilgrimage and stories about holy places shaped their choices. European nobles also sought honor, land, and influence, while the pope hoped to strengthen his leadership. These motives overlapped: a knight could seek forgiveness and a higher place in society at the same time.

2. Italian port cities supplied ships and provisions, expecting payment and trading privileges. Some nobles borrowed money or sold property to finance travel. In 1099, crusaders captured Jerusalem and killed many Muslim and Jewish inhabitants. They established states along the eastern Mediterranean coast, where trade linked European merchants with Southwest Asian markets. Fighting and shifting control disrupted local communities, even as some ports gained business. In 1187, the Muslim ruler Saladin retook Jerusalem, showing that conquest did not settle control of the city.

3. Later crusades also brought conflict among Christians. In 1204, crusaders attacked Constantinople, the capital of the Christian Byzantine Empire, weakening a state they had originally been asked to help. In Europe, some rulers raised taxes to fund campaigns and strengthened officials who collected the money. Some nobles sold land to pay crusading costs, and some kings bought their estates. Monarchies did not grow equally everywhere, but in some kingdoms war financing helped kings expand their power. Across the region, violence and trade left lasting connections and tensions.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How could religious belief and the desire for honor both lead a knight to join a crusade?

2. Why did Italian port cities supply crusaders, and what economic benefit did they expect?

3. How did the Crusades bring both harm and economic activity to Southwest Asia?

4. Explain two ways crusading could increase a European king's power.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence recommendation to a European king deciding whether to fund another crusade. Connect a religious or cultural cause and an economic or political cause to possible effects in both Europe and Southwest Asia, then explain your recommendation.

ANSWER KEY

Crusades and Crowns

HIGH SCHOOL · WH.3.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two reasons people joined or supported the Crusades, circle two effects in Southwest Asia, and number two ways crusading could strengthen European kings. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How could religious belief and the desire for honor both lead a knight to join a crusade?	**A knight might seek spiritual reward through fighting and hope to gain honor by taking part.**
2	Why did Italian port cities supply crusaders, and what economic benefit did they expect?	**They supplied ships and provisions because they expected payment and trading privileges.**
3	How did the Crusades bring both harm and economic activity to Southwest Asia?	**Fighting disrupted communities and the capture of Jerusalem killed many inhabitants, while trade through some ports increased business.**
4	Explain two ways crusading could increase a European king's power.	**Funding campaigns let some rulers raise taxes and strengthen tax-collecting officials. Some kings also bought estates from nobles who needed money.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Your subjects may support a new crusade because they see fighting for holy sites as a religious duty, while merchants may seek trading privileges. Paying for ships and soldiers could let you raise taxes and strengthen royal officials. Another campaign could disrupt communities in Southwest Asia, even if some ports gain business. I advise against funding it because the likely harm and expense outweigh the uncertain gains in power and trade.

Accept other passage-supported causal links, including nobles selling land and kings buying estates. Recommendations may favor or oppose a new crusade if they explain effects in both regions.