A Crusade Diverted

Trace how the Crusades changed control of Byzantine lands.

AWH.C.10.3.C "consequences of the European Crusades in the 11th to 13th centuries, including the Fourth Crusade, the Crusader conquest of Orthodox Christian Byzantium, and the Crusader Kingdoms of Greece"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three Crusader actions in the passage, then circle a consequence of each action and number each matching pair to show how one event led to another.

When Crusaders Took Constantinople

1 In 1095, Pope Urban II called western Christians to aid Eastern Christians facing Turkish advances and to recover holy lands. The armed expeditions that followed became known as the Crusades. In 1099, the First Crusade captured Jerusalem, and western European leaders set up states along the eastern Mediterranean coast. These states brought new rulers into the region but also faced repeated wars with their neighbors. Not all Crusades followed the same route or attacked the same opponents. By the early thirteenth century, one expedition would strike a Christian capital instead of its intended Muslim target.

2 The Fourth Crusade was planned as a campaign against Muslim powers, beginning with an attack on Egypt. Its leaders owed money to Venice for ships, so they agreed to attack Zara, a Christian city on the Adriatic coast, in 1202. They then sailed toward Constantinople after a Byzantine prince promised money and military support if they helped put him on the throne. Those promises could not be fully met, and conflict followed. In 1204, the crusaders stormed and looted Constantinople, the capital of the Orthodox Christian Byzantine Empire. A campaign aimed at Muslim-held lands had instead conquered fellow Christians.

3 After the conquest, Latin Christian rulers established an empire centered on Constantinople and divided much Byzantine territory among themselves. In Greece, crusaders founded states such as the Principality of Achaea and the Duchy of Athens, while many Greek Orthodox people remained under Latin rulers. Venice gained ports and trade privileges in former Byzantine lands. Byzantine leaders in exile recovered Constantinople in 1261, but they did not reunite all the lost territory. The conquest weakened Byzantine power and deepened mistrust between Orthodox and Catholic Christians. The crusader states in Greece lasted for different lengths of time, even after Byzantine rule returned to Constantinople.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the First Crusade change political control near Jerusalem?

2. How did a debt and a prince's offer help turn the Fourth Crusade away from its planned target?

3. What were two changes in control of Byzantine lands after the conquest of Constantinople?

4. How did the conquest continue to affect Byzantium and Christian relations after 1261?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence museum label explaining how a movement that began with a call to aid Eastern Christians led to Latin Christian rule over Orthodox lands. Link Urban II's call, the Fourth Crusade's diversion, one crusader state in Greece, and a lasting consequence.

ANSWER KEY

A Crusade Diverted

HIGH SCHOOL · AWH.C.10.3.C

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three Crusader actions in the passage, then circle a consequence of each action and number each matching pair to show how one event led to another. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the First Crusade change political control near Jerusalem?	**It captured Jerusalem, and western European leaders established states along the eastern Mediterranean coast.**
2	How did a debt and a prince's offer help turn the Fourth Crusade away from its planned target?	**A debt to Venice led the crusaders to attack Zara. A Byzantine prince's offer of money and military support then drew them toward Constantinople.**
3	What were two changes in control of Byzantine lands after the conquest of Constantinople?	**Latin rulers established an empire centered on Constantinople and founded states in Greece, including Achaea and Athens.**
4	How did the conquest continue to affect Byzantium and Christian relations after 1261?	**Byzantine leaders recovered Constantinople but not all lost territory. The empire remained weakened, and mistrust between Orthodox and Catholic Christians deepened.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Urban II urged western Christians to aid Eastern Christians and recover holy lands, but later crusading armies did not always follow those aims. In the Fourth Crusade, debts to Venice and a Byzantine prince's offer helped redirect the army toward Constantinople, which it sacked in 1204. Latin rulers then divided Byzantine land, including parts of Greece where they founded the Principality of Achaea. Although Byzantine forces retook Constantinople in 1261, the empire remained weakened and the attack deepened mistrust between Orthodox and Catholic Christians.

Accept either the Principality of Achaea or the Duchy of Athens as a crusader state in Greece. Responses should connect the diversion and conquest to changes in control, rather than merely list events.