

Name: _____ Date: _____



I want to meet Richard II and tell him the taxes are not fair, but I can't write. Can you write down what I should say to Richard II? You can use the sentence cards to help you.

1.

2.

3.

4.

Name: _____ Date: _____



I want to meet Richard II and tell him the taxes are not fair, but I can't write. Can you write down what I should say to Richard II? You can use the fact cards to help you.

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Name: _____ Date: _____



I want to meet Richard II and tell him the taxes are not fair and suggest other ways of raising money, but I can't write. Please can you write down what I should say to Richard II? You can use the fact sheet to help you.

Do you think the poll tax is fair? Explain why.

How should Richard II raise money if he gets rid of the poll tax?

Name: _____ Date: _____



I don't think our taxes should be spent on wars and banquets for the rich. I want to give Richard II some ideas of other things he could spend the taxes on. Can you help me think of some suggestions and write why he should choose them?

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I am only allowed to work for the lord of the village so I can't get a new job.

I want to buy a unicorn.

I don't have enough money to buy new clothes for my family.

I have run out of coins to put in the wishing well.

I have no money left to buy food for my family. My children are ill.

I have not got enough money to get a musician to write a new town song.

I work every day to try and pay the taxes. I don't ever get to rest.

Why was the poll tax created?



The **black death** killed about 30% of the population between 1348-1351. This meant there were fewer peasants to work so **they demanded better pay**. Some peasants even got their **freedom**.

In 1351 a law was passed that let lords **make peasants work for free again**. The peasants could not afford to eat and did not feel this was fair.



England had been fighting lots of **expensive wars**. The treasury had run out of money. A **tax** was introduced by the barons to get money for the king to spend on wars, castles and feasts.



It was a **poll tax** where, everyone had to pay the same amount. The peasants began **hiding** from the tax collectors because they **couldn't afford** to pay.



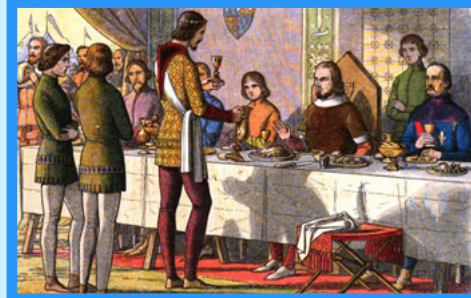
The barons sent the tax collectors out to collect **more** money. So the peasants of **Fobbing in Essex** began to **riot**. Soon peasants in **Essex** and **Kent** were rioting and **refusing to pay** the tax.

How were taxes in medieval times spent?



The king spent taxes on wars, running his castles, building new castles and holding feasts. He would have paid a wage to some people, but it wouldn't have been very much.

The lord spent taxes on running and decorating his castle, holding feasts and giving gifts to friends. He would have also paid a wage to some people, but it wouldn't have been very much.



The church spent money on building new churches, cathedrals and monasteries. Decorating the churches and making copies of religious texts like the Bible would have been expensive too.

How are taxes spent in Britain today?

The council collects taxes from each household. This money pays for roads to be repaired, bins to be collected and parks to be maintained.



NHS

People who have a job get taxed on the money they earn. This money pays for hospitals and schools. Some of the money is spent on the army and the police.

Most things you buy have a tax included in the price. This includes cars, drinks, clothes and luxury items. The money goes to the government and they spend it on whatever they want to.

