
TERM 4 WEEK 2 HISTORY

- L.I: To find out about the structure of medieval castles.
 - SC: I know what defences they have.
-

Today we will
be... Finding
out about
the
structure of
medieval
castles.



What can you remember about Norman castles?



Who built them?





The Normans invaded England.
This means they decided they
should be in charge.

Some people were
not very happy about
this. They fought
the Normans.

The Normans needed
to build castles to
protect themselves
and their soldiers.

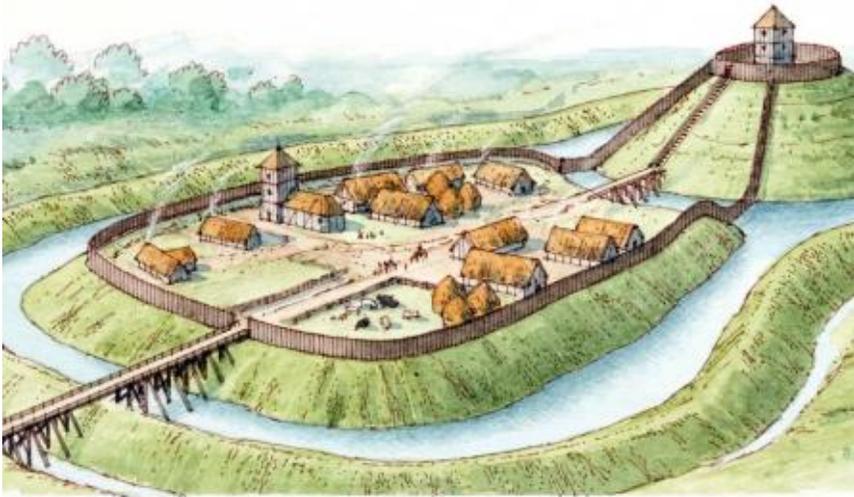


What can you remember about Norman castles?

What were they
made of?



There were two types of Norman castle.



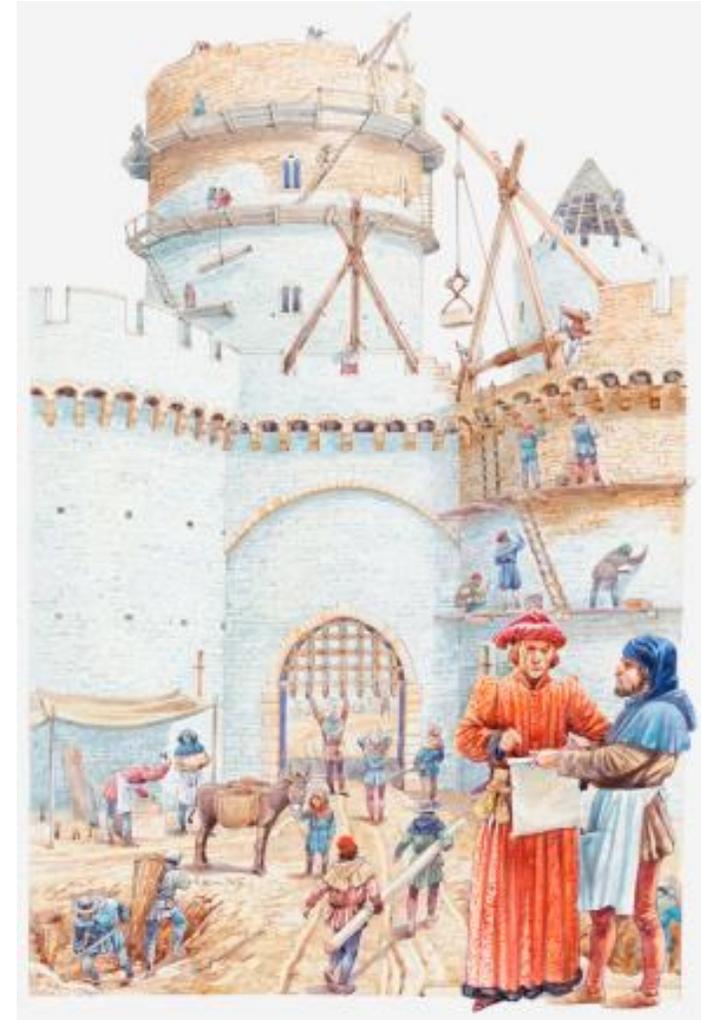
Motte and bailey castles were quick to build and were made from wood.



Keep and bailey castles took longer to build and were made from stone.



Were castles in
England only built by
the Normans?



No they weren't. The Normans ruled Britain during the Middle Ages. The Middle Ages are also called the Medieval Period. The Middle Ages continued and castles continued to be built after Norman rule finished in England.

Did you know there was almost 300 years between the end of the Norman rule in England and the end of the Medieval Period?



This is Hever Castle in Kent. In 1270 a gatehouse and a walled bailey were built here. In 1462 a castle was built.

Hever Castle was built 20 years after the Normans were no longer in power in England.





This is Bodiam Castle in East Sussex. It was built in 1385.



That was nearly 200 years after the Normans were no longer in power in England.

Can you see any similarities or differences between these castles?



Pembroke Castle



Chepstow Castle



Rochester Castle



Hever Castle



Tower of London

The castles have stone walls with gaps to shoot arrows through. These are the battlements. Can you spot them?



Rochester Castle



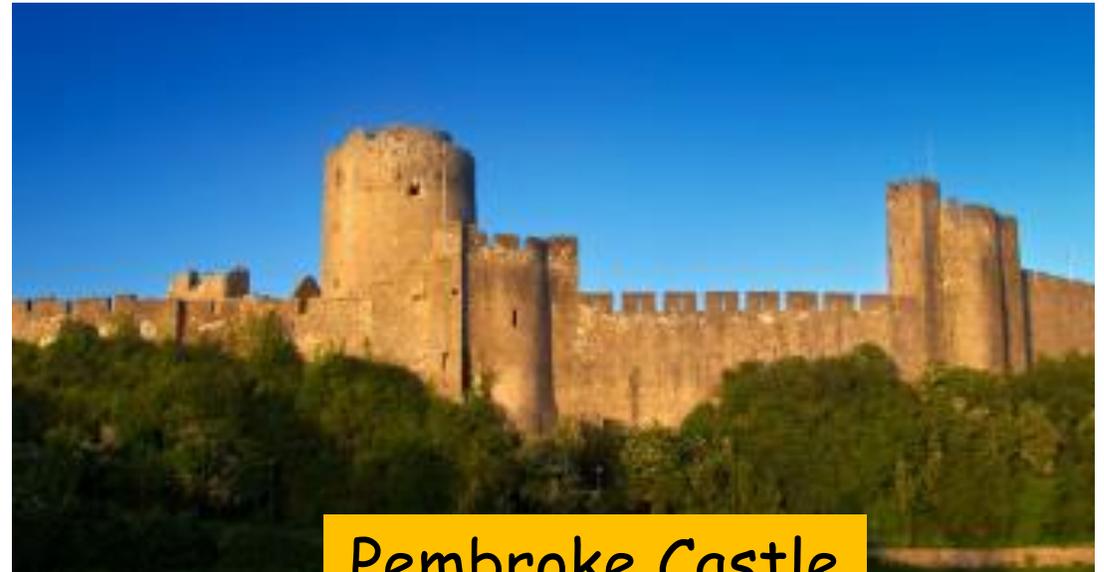
Pembroke Castle



The castle walls had towers. These gave the people in the towers a better view of their attackers.



Bodiam Castle



Pembroke Castle

Many castles had inner and outer walls. You can see both walls clearly at Beaumaris Castle in Wales.

Why do you think having two sets of walls would make a castle easier to defend?



Most castles have a moat or a ditch around the walls.

Bodiam Castle



Pembroke Castle



Why do you think this was important?



Moats or ditches were important because they made it harder for attackers to reach the walls and get into the castle.

This is Corfe Castle in Dorset. It doesn't have a moat or ditch because it was built on a steep hill.





Rochester
Castle



Tower of London

Most castles have a keep.
This was the safest place
to be if the castle was
under attack.

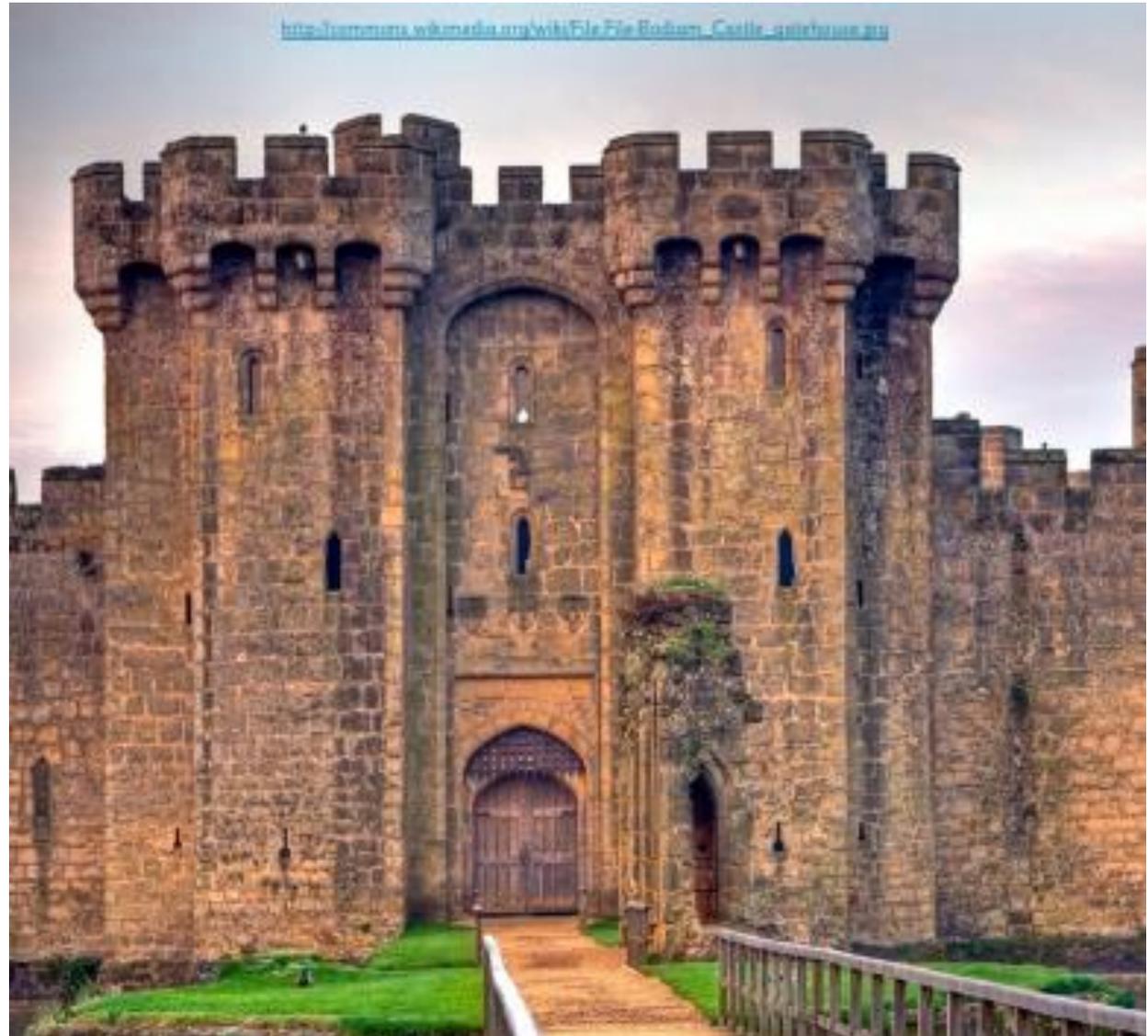


Why do you think
the keep was a
good lookout post?

The entrance into a castle was through the gatehouse. The gatehouse often had a portcullis and a drawbridge.



The portcullis was a strong iron gate that could be lowered in front of the door.



Can you match the labels to the correct parts of the castle?



tower

battlements

portcullis

moat

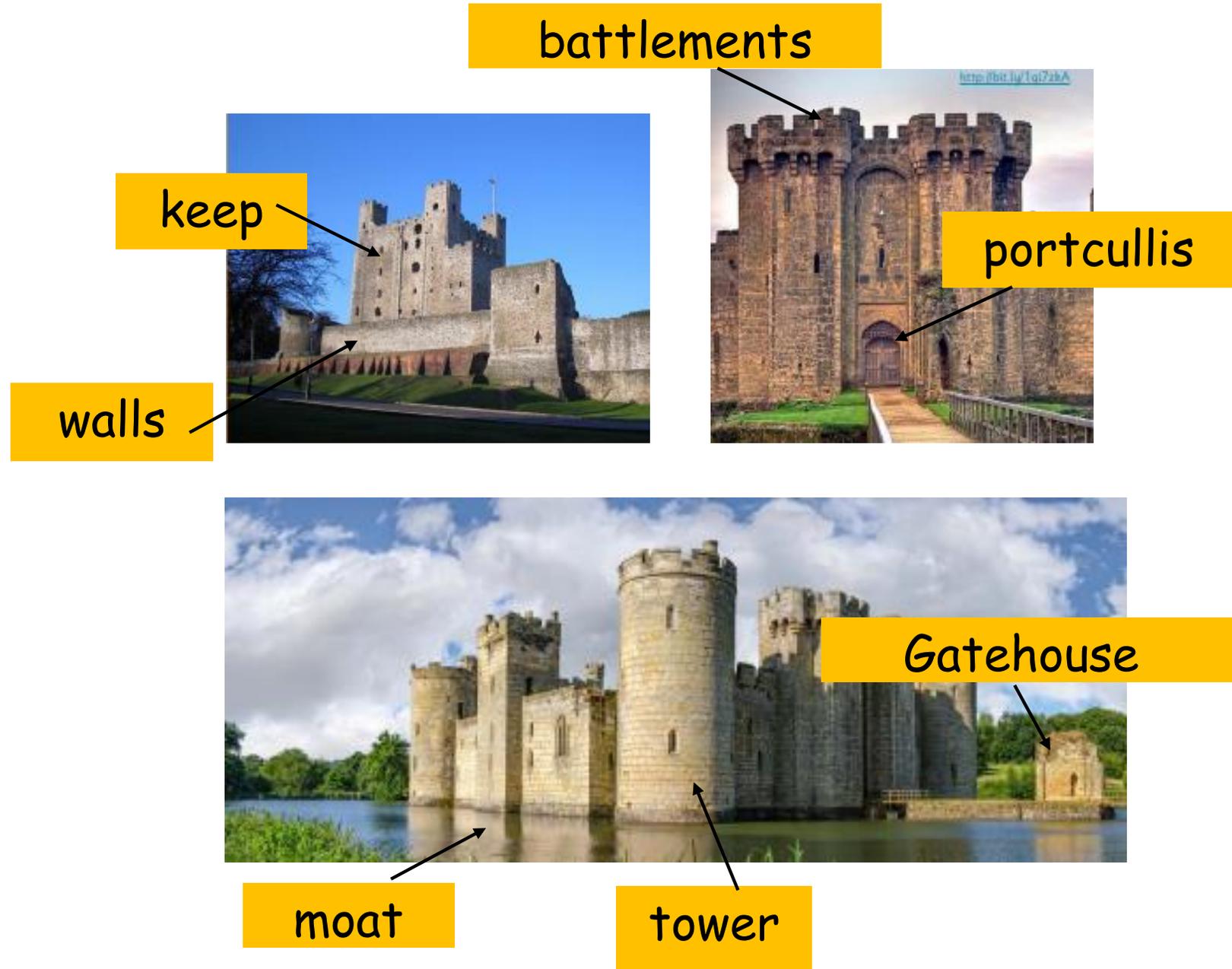
keep

Gatehouse

walls



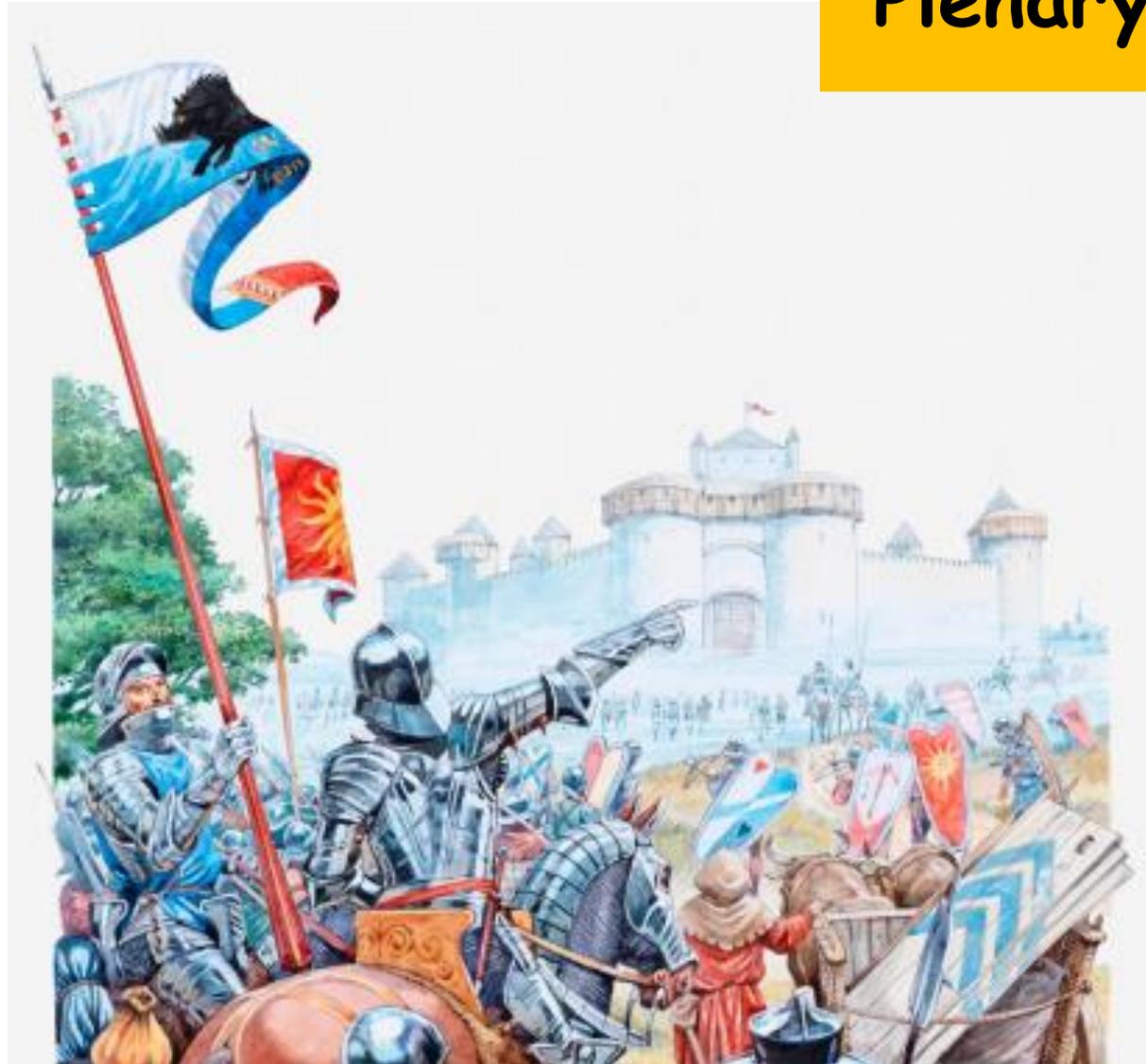
Did you get it right? These parts of the castle help to make it easier to defend.



Plenary

If a castle's defences were too strong for the attackers they might start a siege. A siege was when the enemy surrounded a castle. This meant no one could get in or out. Sieges could last for years!

What problems might you have if you were in a castle that was under seige?



If the castle was under siege no one would be able to deliver food or drinks. Most castles kept a large store of food to try and stop people from starving before the traders were allowed to return.

What do you think would happen if people in the castle started to run out of food?



They had three choices. They could surrender, try and fight off the enemy or starve.

What would you do?



Task:

Draw a picture of a castle and label the different sections that we have been learning about today. Pick three sections of the castle and explain why they were important.

 Draw and label a picture of a castle. You can use the word bank to help. Then explain why three sections of the castle were important.



