

3.0 Synergetic Short Answer Questions

Learning Objective: students will apply their learning in new and novel ways to demonstrate critical thinking and reading comprehension skills.

Procedure

- 1). Complete the readings associated with the headings below.
- 2). Read carefully and then answer the **black questions**.
- 3). Use the answers from the first two questions to answer the **blue synergistic question**.
- 4). Meet, discuss, answer and share with the class your answer to the **final (group) question**.

READINGS: 3.0 and 3.1

Glossary Terms: Alexander III, Edward I, *Treaty of Birgham*, John Balliol, Robert Bruce, Battle of Dunbar, Stone of Destiny.

- 1). Why do periods of instability inevitably follow the death of any king in a feudal system (3.0)?
- 2). How did Edward I's treatment of Scotland change after the death of Alexander III (3.1)?
- 3). Why are feudal societies comparatively "less stable, and not as long lasting" compared to modern democratic societies?
- 4). During the feudal period whether a kingdom enjoyed peace or suffered from war frequently was a reflection of the personal qualities of the individual kings involved. In the present day, does the personality of individual leaders—king, prime minister, president—still affect the whether a country enjoys peace or suffers war? Explain.

READINGS 3.2 and 3.3

Glossary Terms: Andrew Moray, Barns of Ayr, William Wallace, Earl of Surrey, Battle of Stirling Bridge.

- 1). The majority of Scotland's commoners wanted the country to be free. Some Scottish nobles also wanted the country's freedom. Some nobles, however, did not care about Scotland's freedom. Why were some nobles not so excited about breaking away from England (3.2)?
- 2). What advantages did Stirling Bridge offer to the Scottish over the larger English army (3.3)?
- 3). Use the Internet to find out precisely why the English made such a critical tactical mistake as to allow their army to be cut into two at Stirling Bridge.
- 5). Place yourself into the following hypothetical situation: if you were the leader of the English army at Stirling, knowing what you know about the size of the Scottish army and the terrain, what would you have done differently?

READINGS 3.4 and 3.5

Glossary Terms: Battle of Falkirk, John Graham, Brian de Jay, King Philip V, Scone, Battle of Bannockburn, Edward III.

- 1). William Wallace tried to get support for Scotland's independence by appealing to France and the Papacy. In the case of Rome, should the Pope have supported Wallace? Explain your position in detail (3.4).
- 2). When Wallace was eventually captured he was charged with high treason. He argued he could not be charged with treason because he was "never [Edward's] subject." In your opinion, was William Wallace in fact guilty of high treason (3.5)?
- 3). The Pope's decision to back Edward I and England's trying Wallace with high treason demonstrate the fact Scotland was isolated and alone; it could not count on any assistance or understanding from other kingdoms or powers. Based on what you know of Scotland's situation during the Wars of Independence, was the Scottish cause a just one or were they simply being "war mongers" as the Pope observed?
- 5). In the year 1707 AD, the crowns of Scotland and England were brought together into the "United Kingdom." However, in 2016 Scotland had a referendum on whether or not to remain "united" with England. Use the Internet to do some quick research on the Scottish referendum. What was the outcome of the referendum? In your answer, explain how both sides of the referendum—stay and leave—reacted to the results of the referendum.