**The European Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Reformation Vocabulary**

Use the sentences below to select 10 words to complete on the vocabulary foldables. Use the textbooks on the back bookshelf if you need more information! Most definitions can be made from the information below ☺

* **(1) Black Death** was a disease that hit Europe in the 14th Century, killing close to a third of its population. The disease traveled by fleas on rats.
* The Pope eventually inspired the first of what would later be called the**(2) Crusades** - attempts by the Church to retake the Holy Land of Palenstine.
* **(3) Feudalism**is the social structure and government in the Middle Ages. It was made up several classes including Kings (and family), nobles, knights, peasants, and serfs.
* A**(4) knight**provided military service and protection to the nobles. He granted land and protection to the peasants. A knight lived by a moral, religious and social code called **(5)** **chivalry**.
* The **(6)** **Magna Carta**is a collection of 63 clauses or statements about the rights of the barons, ordinary people, and the limits of the power of the king (*Magna Carta* means "great charter" in Latin).
* **(7) Roman Catholic Church**had major influence on the lives of people. Life was short in the Middle Ages, and the Church comforted people with the thought of heaven.
* **(8) Serfs** (or peasants) were considered property of the manor, but they could become free if they saved enough money to buy land.
* The term **(9)** **Renaissance** refers to a period of rebirth of learning in Europe. It was a period of new thought in a variety of fields that greatly influenced European culture.
* The ideas of the Renaissance spread throughout Europe due in part to **(10)** **Gutenberg'**s invention of the **(11)** **Printing Press**.
* **(12) Michelangelo**and **Leonardo da Vinci** are considered to be Renaissance men (a term given to someone who can do just about anything well). Leonardo da Vinci painted masterpieces such as The Last Supper and The Mona Lisa. Michelangelo sculpted the statue of David and painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.
* **(13) William Shakespeare**is poet and playwright who many consider to be the greatest in the English language.
* The term**(14) reformation** refers to the period when several church leaders broke from the Roman Catholic Church and created new branches of Christianity.
* Those who reject the doctrine or teachings of the Roman Catholic Church are accused of **(15)** **heresy**.
* **(16) Martin Luther**, a German monk, criticized the Roman Catholic Church. He believed people could live a proper Christian life with common sense and faith in God. Luther believed that ordinary people could understand the bible for themselves.
* Martin Luther posted a list of his complaints about the church to the door of his church in Wittenberg, Germany. This list is none as the **(17)** **Ninety-Five Theses**.
* **(18) Protestant** churches grew out of protests against the power and abuses of the Roman Catholic Church. The members, even today, are called Protestants.