

# *Crispin, A Cross of Lead* by Avi

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## *Crispin The Cross of Lead* by Avi

### Chapters 1 - 6

#### A. Vocabulary

*Make sure you know the meaning of these words before you read.*

*Use a dictionary if necessary.*

shunned      transgression      mercenary wars      strident  
wattle and daub      transfixed

#### B. Read Chapters 1 to 6.

#### C. Understanding the Novel

*Answer the following questions in complete sentences. Refer to the novel if necessary*

1. Why did Asta's son have to take the ox to the manor house?
2. What happened when John Aycliffe saw Asta's son in the woods?
3. What food did Asta and her son eat?
4. Asta's son wanted to return to his home, but was unable to do this. Why?
5. Why does Asta's son decide to go to Father Quinel for help?

#### D. Thinking About the Novel

*These questions ask for your ideas and opinions. Therefore there are no incorrect answers. You must, however give reasons and justify your answers.*

1. Explain why being a villein or surf in medieval times was like being a slave.
2. What have you learned about medieval life in a small village from the first few chapters of the novel? List five or six things.

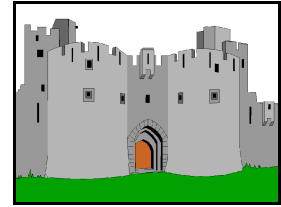
### Chapters 7 to 10

#### A. Vocabulary

*Use a dictionary if you do not understand the meaning of these words.*

conviction      tyrant      sanctuary      pondered      sullenly      foreboding      disquiet

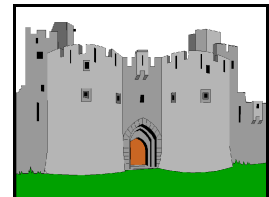
## Words! Words! Words! Activity 1



How many syllables are there in the following words?  
Divide the words into syllables.  
Complete the following chart

	<i>Word</i>	<i>Syllables</i>	<i>Word in Syllables</i>
	<i>tyrant</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>ty / rant</i>
1	prudence		
2	insignificant		
3	malevolence		
4	brazenly		
5	reluctant		
6	corrupt		
7	furtively		
8	illuminate		

## Words! Words! Words! Activity 2



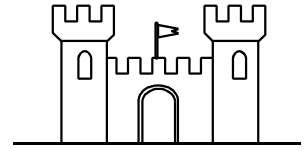
Use words from the vocabulary lists to create a word search.

You should use at least twenty-five words.

Ask a classmate to solve your word search.

Remember to keep a copy of the answers to check the solved puzzle.

## Research Activity 5

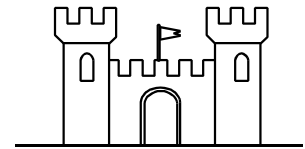


There social structure of people in medieval times consisted of a strict hierarchy, with the monarch at the highest point, and the peasants at the lowest point.

Research the social structure and make a list of people within the social hierarchy.

Create an illustrated diagram to show the social structure of the people who lived in Fourteenth Century England.

## Research Activity 6



The novel mentions that Lord Furnival had been away fighting foreign wars. To what wars does this refer?

Research and make notes on the following historical topics covering the time period of the Fourteenth Century:

- wars fought by England.
- inventions and discoveries
- exploration
- education
- music, art and literature

Present your findings in the form of an illustrated booklet.

You may work with a partner on this activity if you wish.