

# Was there a struggle between Church and Crown in the Middle Ages?



To answer this, you'll need to present POINTS and EXAMPLES saying 'yes, there was' and points and examples saying 'no there wasn't'. And when you've got some of each, you can weigh up your evidence.

## Introduction

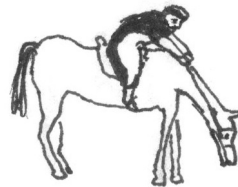
Don't start an essay with 'in this essay I shall' and then repeat what the question is. What a waste of words! Instead, you could say something like 'The Church was very important in the Middle Ages. It looked after people's souls but also helped the king rule. Sometimes the king didn't see eye-to-eye with his churchmen.' (That's not a great introduction, but it'll do. If you can't think what to write, leave the introduction till last!)

## Main body

Here you need to PEE! That's POINT, EVIDENCE (OR EXAMPLE), EXPLANATION. From the essay examples sheets, choose **three things** for "yes, there was a struggle" and **three things** for "no, there wasn't a struggle".

E.g.

King John sent a Merton canon to Normandy.



King John wouldn't allow Stephen Langton to be archbishop of Canterbury.



These are EXAMPLES, so we have to turn them into POINTS as well. A point can have several examples attached to it. In fact, you can think of it as a theme that connects examples.

E.g.

Kings would use churchmen as royal servants. For example, King John sent a Merton canon to Normandy. (We could use an example also from your Rogues' Gallery sheet: Peter, bishop of Winchester, was one of Henry III's main ministers.)

Now we've got a point and example, we need to wrap up our paragraph with an EXPLANATION of how our points and examples answer the question.

E.g.

Churchmen helped the king rule the kingdom, and so there could not have been a struggle between Church and Crown - at least not always.

## Conclusion

Here you need to say "yes, there was", "no there wasn't", "sometimes there was", or whatever it is you think. If you're feeling clever, you can put in a point that challenges the question or makes the reader think in a different way. So I could say, yes, sometimes Crown and Church fell out, but sometimes even the Church fell out with itself! But you can leave that out - it's only if you're feeling clever.

