

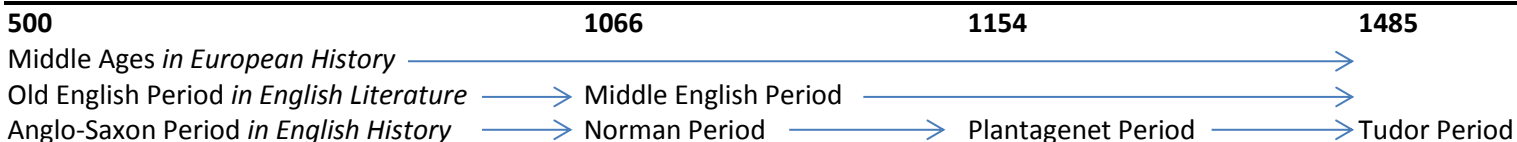
BRITISH LITERATURE LECTURE 03

Remember:

Middle Ages – 500 (Fall of Rome) to 1500 (Protestant Reformation/Renaissance/Turkish conquest of Constantinople)

Middle English Period was the second half of Middle Ages in England – 1066 to 1485

- From Normand Invasion of 1066
- To Battle of Bosworth of 1485 marking the end of the War of the Roses and the beginning of the Tudor Reign



Canterbury Tales Analysis

- Elements of Literature

Richard the Lionhearted ruled 1189 – 1199

- Son of Henry IIand a famous Crusader!
- The famous Third Crusade: 1189 – 1192 (All the crusades took place from 1095 – 1291)



Infamous King John ruled 1199 - 1216

- Son of Henry II and little brother of Richard
- Forced by barons to sign Magna Carta (1215) – the foundation of our founding documents

Hundred Years War 1337 - 1453

- England versus France - House of Valois in France versus House of Plantagenet in England
- Direct result of feudal system
- Longbows & Gunpowder
- Joan of Arc

During those years of the Hundred Years War many things happened:

- **Black Death** / Bubonic Plague – 1348 - 1349
- **John Wycliffe** challenges the organized church – 1324 - 1384
- Invention of the movable-type **Printing Press!** :-D



War of Roses (about 1455 – 1485)

- Civil War in England lasting on and off for about thirty years
- House of Lancaster versus House of York – vying for the throne – both sides had claims
- Ended with Battle of Bosworth – Richard III died in battle against Henry VII
- Houses were united with marriage of Henry VII (Lancaster) and Elizabeth of York (niece of Richard III)
- Elizabeth didn't mind marrying the "enemy of the Yorks – her uncle had (probably) had her little brothers killed!"



This week's Authors:

• Thomas Malory

-Morte d'Arthur

The story of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table

Malory was a gentleman in service to Earl of Warwick

During War of the Roses

Wrote Morte d'Arthur while in prison

Based the story on French tales about King Arthur

Historical Figure or pure Legend?

Geoffrey of Monmouth's "The History of the Kings of Britain"



• Ballads

-Sir Patrick Spens

-The Twa Corbies (The Two Crows)

-The Wife of Usher's Well

-Robin Hood and the Widow's Three Sons

-Get Up and Bar the Door

