

## What were the causes of the Peasants revolt?

The following tasks will take you **two lessons**.

### Task one

**What is a revolt?** Research the meaning of the word revolt and write down a definition of it.

You have already studied a revolt in History this year. You will probably remember the Harrying of the North during the reign of William the Conqueror and the revolt that caused it.

Write down 6 pieces of information that you can remember.

If you need to then research this. Make sure that you write down any information in your own words.

### Task two

#### Why were the peasants unhappy?

The year is 1381 and Richard II is King of England. A tax collector called John Bampton was working in Fobbing in Essex. He was collecting a tax called the Poll tax. Bampton asked the villagers for more money and they refused. Bampton was angry and threatened the villagers. They chased him out of the village. This was the spark for the Peasants Revolt

Answer the following questions using the information above.

1. Who was King of England at this time?
2. Who was John Bampton?
3. What was the tax called that he collected?
4. Why was Bampton angry with the villagers?
5. Why did the villagers chase him away?
6. What did this cause?

### Task 3

Look below at some other causes of the Peasants revolt.

#### Other causes of the Peasants revolt

1. Disliked the poll **tax**
2. **Worried** about the young king and his advisors.
3. Didn't like working for the Church for **no** pay.
4. Thought their wages were too **low**.

5. People were encouraging them to believe they were **equal to** everyone else.
6. The French were raiding villages on the **coast**
7. The War with France was too **expensive**

You have been chosen by your village to lead them in the Peasants Revolt against the king. **You must now encourage others to join your cause.**

Write a **speech to gain the support of peasants in your village**, with **at least 3 reasons** why they should revolt.

What persuasive techniques could you use?

#### **Task 4**

##### **What happened during the revolt?**

**Look carefully at the events of the Peasants Revolt below. Draw a story board to show each of the events. You may want to research some additional information about each of the events.**

1. Rebels chase Bampton out of the village.
2. Rebels from different villages join together.
3. Wat Tyler chosen as the leader of the rebels.
4. Tyler storms Maidstone castle and releases popular priest John Ball.
5. Rebels meet at Mile End near London and ask for a meeting with the king.
6. Rebels enter the city and riot. They burn Savoy palace and open up prisons.
7. Wat Tyler meets the king and tells him the peasants demands. These include an end to the Feudal System so that peasants are free from Lords and could earn the best pay
8. King agrees to some of the demands but not death for his evil advisors.
9. Rebels execute some of the king's leading advisors.
10. Tyler meets the king again and asks for all land in the country to be divided up and given to peasants.
11. King seems to agree but Tyler then killed by the Mayor of London.
12. Richard calms the situation and promises the peasants everything that they want.
13. Peasants went home but the king's advisors got him to change his mind and the promises were all forgotten.
14. Rebel leaders rounded up and put on trial.

15. John Ball, hanged, drawn and quartered. The quarters were sent to different towns and put on show.

**Task 5**

**How successful were the peasants in achieving their goals?**

Using the information from the events above, how successful do you think they were in achieving their goals? Explain your answer using evidence from the events above.