Historical Background: The Old English & Medieval Periods, 449-1485

Expository Response Notes

**Directions:** Read the historical background information about this time period on pages 4-12 of the textbook. After reading, complete the chart. Then, read the essay on pages 14-15 and complete the short writing assignment.

**Invasion, Settlement, Assimilation**

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| **Topic: In your own words, state the main point/detail of each section.**  **--** \*Summarize the main point/ detail of this section! | **Evidence: Provide an in-text citation that shows that main point/detail.**  Format:  The author states, “Example from text that shows the main idea” (“Historical Background” \_\_\_). | **Analysis: Why is that main point/detail important?**  \*This section should be approximately 1-2 sentences for each event. |
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**The Feudal Era, 1100-1485**

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**How did English writers respond to their island geography?**

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**How did literature make a nation of an island?**

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**How did writers capture a vanishing world of tribes and clans?**

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**How did Chaucer reflect social trends without preaching?**

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**How do writers change what they have inherited?**

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| **Topic: In your own words, state the main point/detail of each section.**  **--** \*Summarize the main point/ detail of this section! | **Evidence: Provide an in-text citation that shows that main point/detail.**  Format:  The author states, “Example from text that shows the main idea” (“Historical Background” \_\_\_). | **Analysis: Why is that main point/detail important?**  \*This section should be approximately 1-2 sentences for each event. |
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**How did Chaucer respond to and create literary traditions?**

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| **Topic: In your own words, state the main point/detail of each section.**  **--** \*Summarize the main point/ detail of this section! | **Evidence: Provide an in-text citation that shows that main point/detail.**  Format:  The author states, “Example from text that shows the main idea” (“Historical Background” \_\_\_). | **Analysis: Why is that main point/detail important?**  \*This section should be approximately 1-2 sentences for each event. |
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**READ:** “Recent Scholarship: England’s Green, Fertile Land” by Burton Raffel (pgs. 14-15). After reading the essay by Raffel, answer the following question:

**Burton Raffel describes medieval England as a prosperous bustling island pulsing with commerce, recreation, and, often war. What stories, images, or events come to mind when you hear the phrase “medieval England”? Integrate details and information from this textbook and other sources - including movies, novels, and games - to support your ideas.**

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