**Write about a lady in a Medieval castle?**

**WORK**

* In medieval times, the main role of the lady of the castle was to marry and have children. A noble woman did not marry for love. Her parents arranged her marriage like a business contract and a dowry was paid.
* The lady of a castle did a lot of work. She had to (a) run a large household (b) oversee the servants, (c) look after food supplies, (d) organise the salting of meat, and (e) oversee all of the sewing and embroidery done in the castle (f) learn how to cure illnesses with herbs and (g) look after and defend the castle when their lord was away.

**HOME**

* The lady lived in the keep with her lord and family. The castle had 3 storeys.

(a)The basement was the place where food and weapons were stored. The dungeons were also situated here..

(b) On the ground floor there was the Great Hall where all meals were eaten, banquets were held, and where the lord carried out his business. Courts were often held here also.

(c) The upper floor was the family’s private quarters and included a chapel, the bedrooms and the solar where the lady relaxed or took care of her duties.

* **You can also add in details about the features of the castle and defending it in times of a siege.**

**CLOTHES**

* The lady wore a long dress made of fine wool or silk and different types of elaborate headdresses. One style was called a wimple. Shoes were made of leather and had pointy toes. (impractical)

**FOOD**

* The lady ate 3 meals a day in the great hall - (a) bread and a drink for breakfast, (b) a huge meal for dinner - (this was at 12 noon and included 3-4 courses, lots of meat, vegetables, fruit and honey), and (c) a further meal later in the day which was not as big as dinner.

**PASTIMES**

* The lady would often spin and weave, do needlework and embroidery, and play music in the solar. They made beautiful tapestries (carpets that were hung on walls). Many liked to go hawking. This was where a hawk was trained to sit on the lady’s shoulder and hunt other birds. Ladies also enjoyed attending tournaments. At night she listened to court jesters and minstrels.