

## BALDERDASH: MEDIEVAL WORDS

Students are given a word to define; they write their definition on a piece of paper (If they do not know what a word means, encourage them to make up a definition.). Once definitions have been written, read out all the definitions and have students vote on which one is right. If they guess correctly OR their definition gets the most votes, they get a point! Whoever ends with the most points wins.

1. **Benefice:** A land grant given to members of the aristocracy
2. **Brice:** Disturbing the peace; also a fine issued for said crime
3. **Cottar:** A lower-ranking peasant; someone who lived in a cottage but had no land to farm
4. **Culver:** A term of endearment; dove
5. **Gramercy:** Thank you
6. **Indulgence:** A writ by which one's sins were absolved by the Catholic Church in exchange for a sum of money
7. **Limner:** A person who illuminated manuscripts
8. **Morther:** Murder
9. **Pottage:** A soup or stew made in a pot
10. **Spartle:** The stick the cook would use to stir the pottage during cooking
11. **Trencher:** Round bread that also served as a plate or bowl
12. **Vassal:** A free man who swore his loyalty to a lord

<https://www.yourdictionary.com/articles/medieval-terms-defs>

An **illuminated manuscript** is a formally prepared **document** where the text is decorated with flourishes such as **borders** and **miniature illustrations**.