

GUIDED READING Changes in Medieval Society

A. *Drawing Conclusions* As you read this section, make notes in the chart to explain the results of each change or trend in medieval society.

Farmers began using a new type of harness that fitted across a horse's chest.	
2. Using the three-field system, farmers began to grow crops on two-thirds of their land each year, rather than half.	
3. Merchant and craft guilds organize and change ways to do business.	
4. The Commercial Revolution changes trade and banking practices.	
5. As trade blossomed and farming methods improved, the population of western Europe rose from around 30 million to about 42 million between 1000 and 1150.	
 As people left life on the manor for life in towns, they challenged the traditional ways of feudal society in which every- one had a place. 	
7. Authors began writing in the vernacular.	
Growing trade and growing cities brought a new interest in learning.	
9. Christian scholars from Europe visited Muslim libraries in Spain, and Jewish scholars translated Arabic copies of Greek writings into Latin.	

B. Recognizing Facts and Details On the back of this paper, briefly explain how each of the following contributed to intellectual life during medieval times: Dante Alighieri, Geoffrey Chaucer, Christine de Pisan, and Thomas Aquinas.