

Look at this image.

What is happening?

Original image





Where is it?

What type of people are these?



What type of people are these?

What is this gesture?





This *illumination* is from *chronicles* by Jean Froissart.

This shows the murder

of Simon of Sudbury,

Lord Chancellor and Archbishop of Canterbury. He was dragged from the Tower of London to Tower Hill nearby and beheaded. The Prior of St John's and a Franciscan friar were also murdered.

Do you have any initial ideas?

Why would people kill Simon Sudbury?



During today's lesson, you will be researching events of 1381 using a series of different sources and interpretations.

We will record our findings on this worksheet.

Let's start with the first item that we have used as evidence.





Historians use as many sources and interpretations as they can as evidence, in order to work out what happened in the past.

Today you will be historians!

In this lesson, we will be using lots of sources and interpretations as evidence to find out what happened in 1381.

Let's have a look at another source of evidence – this is taken from a *chronicle* from the time.

We'll put our findings onto the sheet.







This illumination from Chronicles by Jean Froissart actually shows two scenes from the same event. On the left is the first scene and the second is on the right.

Original image







Who is the figure in the blue cloak?

What flags can you see?

Who are the groups of people?



This shows King Richard II.

In the first scene, one of the leaders, Wat Tyler, is about to be killed by the Mayor of London, William Walworth.



In the second scene, the King is pleading with people to be peaceful and return to their homes.



Now you will work in pairs/groups and use sources and interpretations as evidence to find out more about the events of 1381.

Be prepared to share your findings with the rest of the class.

We might not be able to fill in all of the boxes, and sometimes we might not be certain about what we find out. This is what historians often experience when carrying out their research too.







What do you think this event is called?

The event that we are looking at is commonly known as the **Peasants' Revolt**.

Do you think that this is what it should be called?



This short animation will recap what we have learnt today.



If there is any new information, you can add this to your sheet.







We looked at this image at the start of the lesson.

Can you explain what is happening?

What had happened before? What happened afterwards?

Are there still things that we need to find out....



So what happened in 1381?

Can you summarise it in a paragraph?

How would you explain it to other people?



Today we've looked at the *traditional interpretation* of the **Peasants' Revolt**. Key parts of it are:

- There were a variety of causes
- The leaders were Wat Tyler and John Ball
- They had no clear aim
- The peasants rebelled violently against the King
- It was mainly in London
- It was widespread and serious
- It was unsuccessful



Next lesson, we will look at more recent research from historians and see how this changes the traditional interpretation.

