

Feudalism and manorialism provided a much needed sense of stability for the people of Europe during the Middle Ages.

Although reforms and a flourishing of culture categorized the Carolingian 'renaissance' with its Italian counterpart...

The amount of self-sufficiency also gained aid from manorial contracts.

Writing Mechanics

Awkwardness/Wordiness:

Re-crafting the Subject

“Try making the subject of your sentence a human individual, group, or institution”

“Consider a human subject...”

Some sentences...

...most of Charlemagne's kingdom disregarded the importance of academic culture...

...Frankish culture emphasized oral tradition, so the majority of citizens did not have the capabilities to write or read.

...Charlemagne's cultural revival restored the declining value of education...

Writer's Tip

Write your crappy sentences, but then improve them by completing the following steps:

1. Locate the subject.
2. Is the subject “animate” or “inanimate”?
3. If inanimate, ask yourself: can the subject do the action of the verb?
4. If the subject can't do the action, re-craft the sentence and make the subject a human individual, group, or institution.

Why is this important? Because much as you want it to, *amount* cannot “gain.”

Original: Feudalism and manorialism provided a much needed sense of stability for the people of Europe during the Middle Ages.

Revision: Feudal vassals often protected the peasantry within manors.

Original: The amount of self-sufficiency also gained aid from manorial contracts.

Revision: Each social class benefited from the manorial social contract.