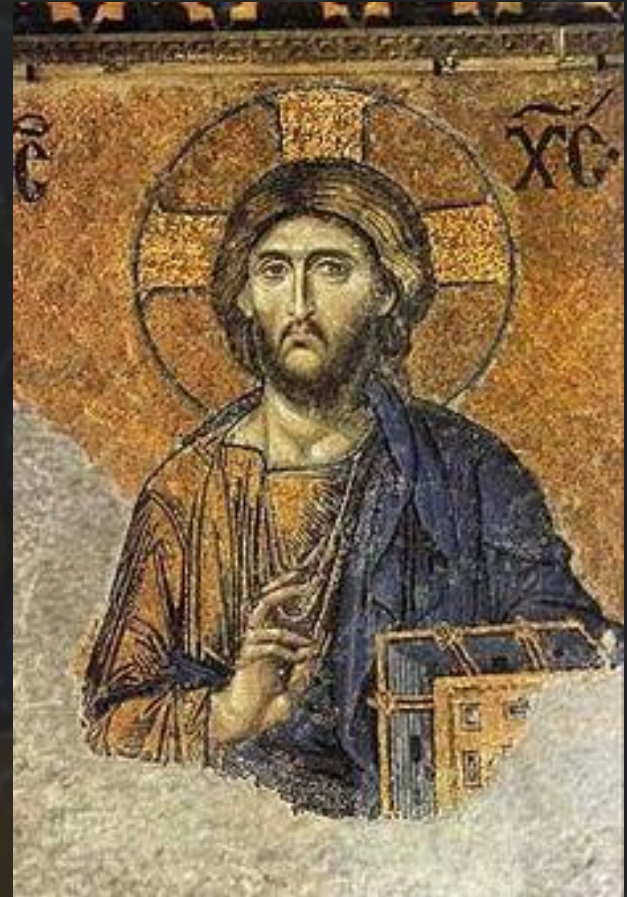
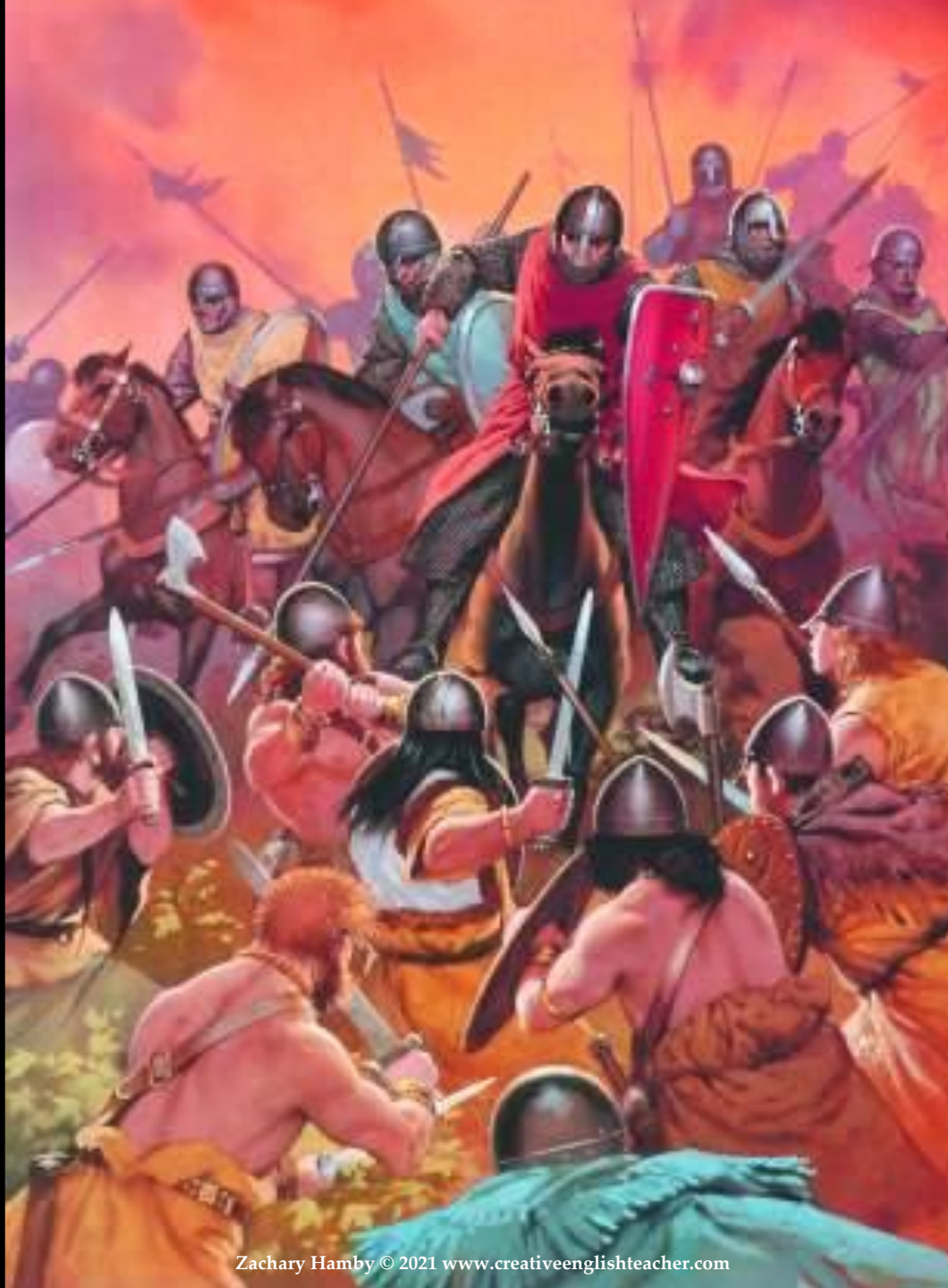


the MEDIEVAL World





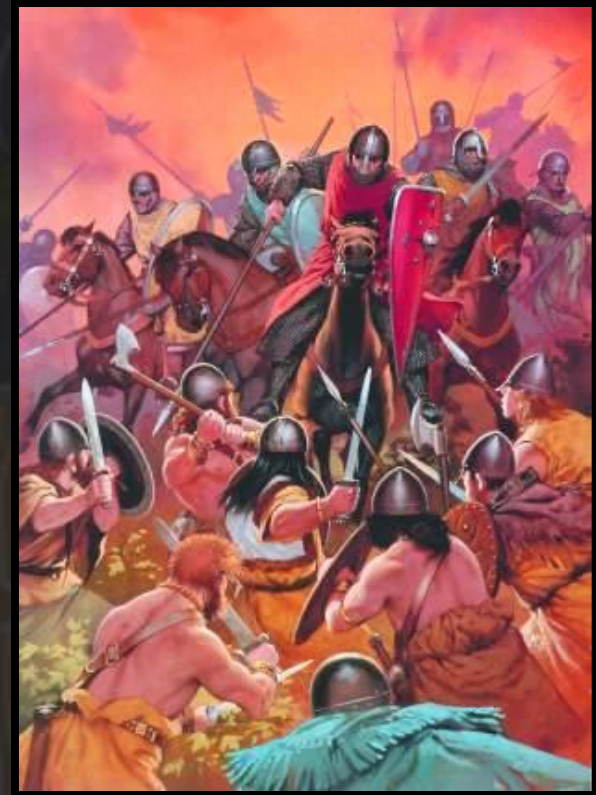


1066—Norman Invasion

Just about the time that the people of Anglo-Saxon England were developing their identity, they are once again invaded.

William, the Duke of Normandy, crossed the English Channel to conquer and claim the throne of England with his army of Normans.

With him William brought many developments from the European mainland that we still associate with the Middle Ages.



The Battle of Hastings 1066 A.D.







THE NORMAN INVASION 1066

Several new ideas were brought into Britain

Stonework: William forced lords to build their castles out of stone

Feudalism: Instituted the system of Feudalism (High king, lord, knights, peasants)

The French Language

Chivalry: Knights were mounted warriors who operated by a strict code of conduct, subjecting themselves to the king and the church



Feudalism

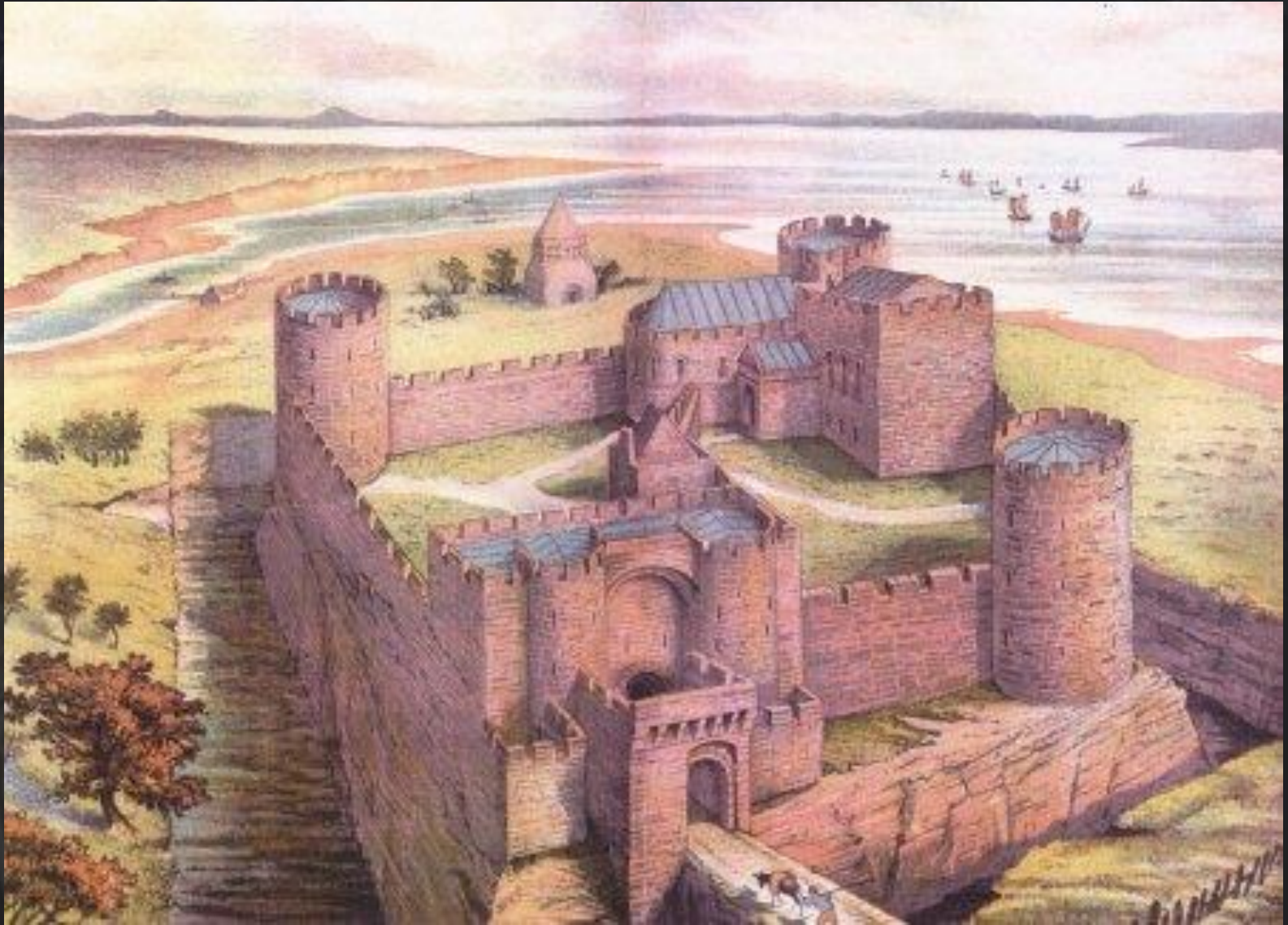
Under this system the King divided up his land among his lords for them to operate. In turn they owed him their loyalty and the use of their knights.

These lords granted lands to knights, who in turn had to fight for the lords.

Peasants lived in squalid huts on the lands of the lords and knights, working the land in order to keep part of the crop for themselves.







CASTLES

Feudalism caused the lords to prosper, and soon there were over 500 stone castles in England.

Most castles came with the newest defenses:

Drawbridge Portcullis

Arrow Loops Moat

Machicolations = overhangs through which projectiles could be dropped or boiling liquids poured

Dungeons and Oubliettes (or deep pits filled with adders and toads)









Defending the Castle

War revolved around castles and sieges.

Some castles kept a year's worth of supplies on hand in case of a siege.

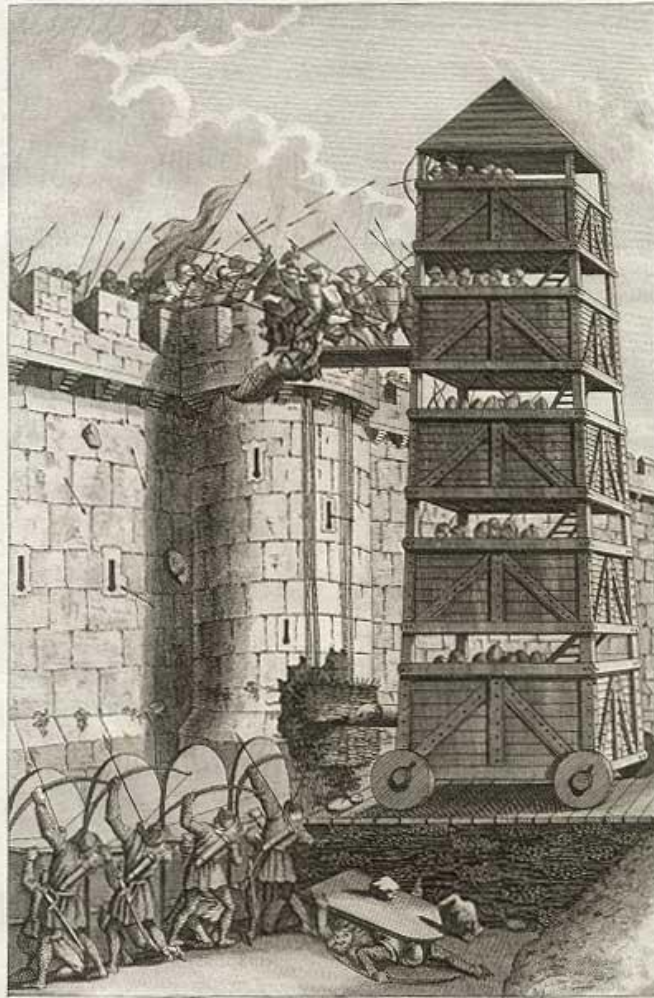
For a siege to be withstood the castle well had to stay active. One siege ended very quickly after the well dried up and the castle-dwellers resorted to drinking the blood of their horses and each other's urine.

Castle Weaknesses:

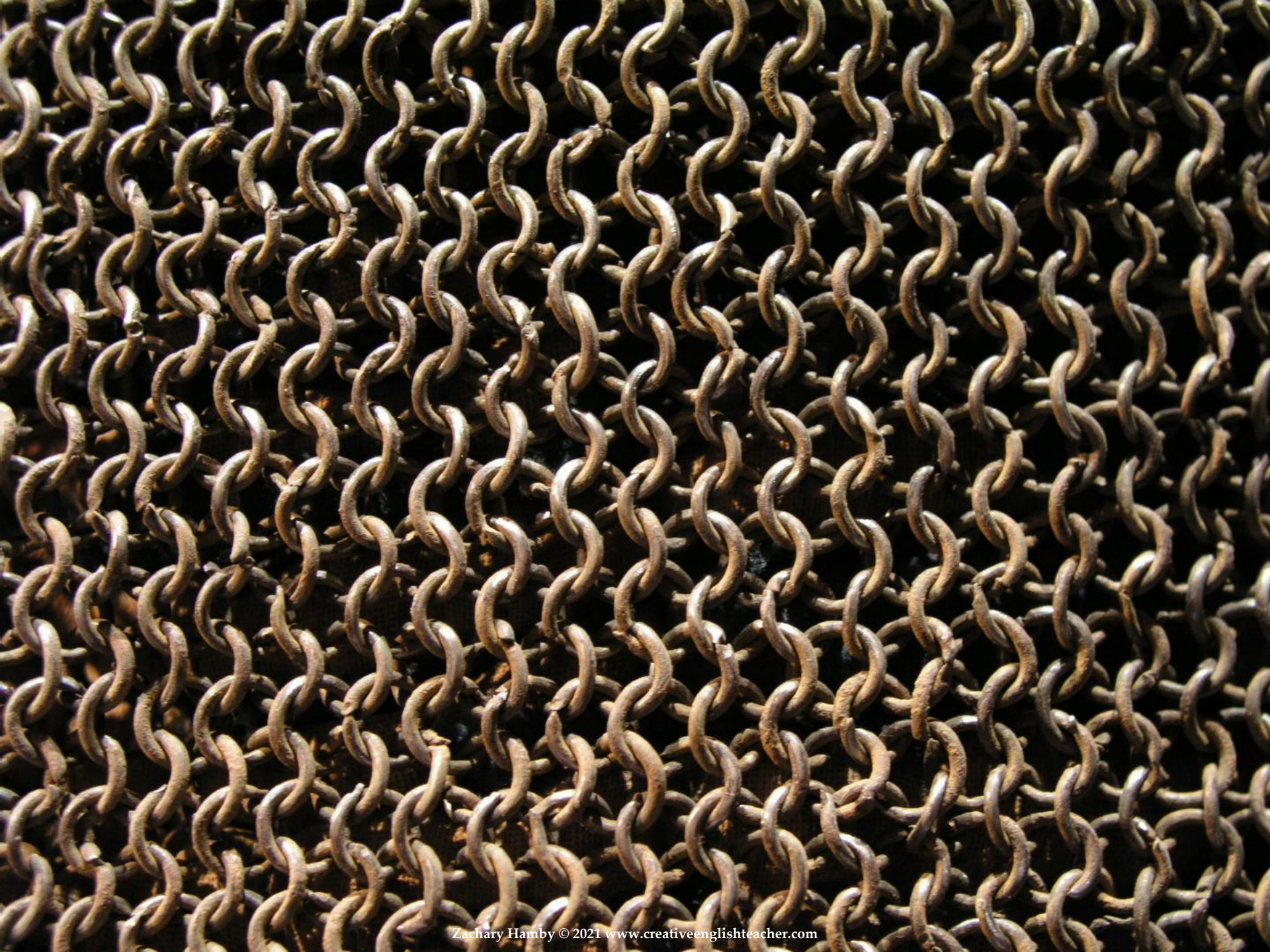
Siege Towers, Filling the Moat, Trebuchet, Sneak Attack (grappling up the wall or sneaking up the latrine)







PAVISORS, OR A MOVEABLE TOWER.





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