UNIT TITLE – What posed the greatest challenge to the authority of medieval monarchs?

Key Words	Definitions
Legitimate (child)	A child born to parents who were legally married at the time of the birth.
Heir	A person who will legally receive money, property or a title from another person, when that person dies.
Archbishop of Canterbury	The leader of the Church in England and Wales.
Excommunicate	To ban someone from being a member of the Church.
Charter	An official document that outlines a set of rules, promises or guidelines for a person/group of people to follow.
Baron	A rich, important person in medieval England who had been given land by the monarch.
Parliament	A group of people who make the laws for a country, and who make important decisions about how the country should be run.
Burgess	An important citizen of a town
Feudal System	A social system in which peasants worked for lords in return for land and protection.
Peasant	A person at the bottom of the feudal system. They worked on the land for their lord.
Poll tax	A tax in which a fixed amount is charged to every tax payer
Revolt	To rise up and fight against the government or another authority

Dates	Key events
Dec 1135	Henry I suddenly died
1135	Stephen of Blois is crowned King of England
1154	Stephen dies and Matilda's son becomes King Henry II of England.
1170	Thomas Becket killed
15th June 1215	Magna Carta signed
1216	King John died and his son became Henry III at only 9 years old
1348	The Black Death arrived in England
30th May 1381	The peasants revolt began

Key individuals	Why are they important?
Matilda	Only legitimate child of King Henry I, but many didn't want her to be Queen of England as she was a woman
Stephen	Matilda's cousin and people wanted him to be King as he was a man
Thomas Becket	Archbishop of Canterbury (from 1162-1170) who was killed by Henry II's knights
King John	King of England who made the barons angry and this led to the creation of Magna Carta
Simon de Montfort	Member of one of England's great aristocratic families and Henry III's steward. He helped to create the Parliament we have today.
Wat Tyler	Leader of the peasants revolt