

**FILL IN THE BLANK**

Your student was instructed to supply the correct word or words in the following paragraph.

The Crusades were holy wars fought in the Holy Land, which was known in the Middle Ages as Palestine (Jerusalem is also acceptable), the place where Jesus taught, died, and rose from the dead. At one time this region was under the rule of Christians, but it was overrun by the Turks (or Muslims). This group of people also harassed Christian travelers and were conquering Byzantine lands. In 1095, Pope Urban II preached a sermon in Clermont, France (either is acceptable), appealing to all Christians to fight to reclaim the Holy Land. There were a total of seven (resources may give numbers between seven and nine) Crusades fought between the years of 1095 and 1270, lasting 175 years. When a person pledged to fight for the Holy Land, he was given a cross of red cloth to wear upon his chest as he went off to war and when he returned from the war, he was to wear it on his back. Those that did this were called Crusaders, from the Latin word *crux*, meaning "cross". There were three religious groups of knights formed to defend the Holy Land, who, in addition to being knights, were also monks. The Knights Hospitallers (or Knights of St. John) were mostly French; they wore a white cross on a black mantle and cared for and protected sick pilgrims. The Knights Templar, who were also mostly French and wore a red cross on a white mantle, were based at the temple in Jerusalem to protect pilgrims traveling to it. The German Teutonic Knights wore a black cross on a white mantle.