

Features of a Castle

10 • The main **castle gate** was hard to break through. It
18 was usually made from thick, iron-studded wood.

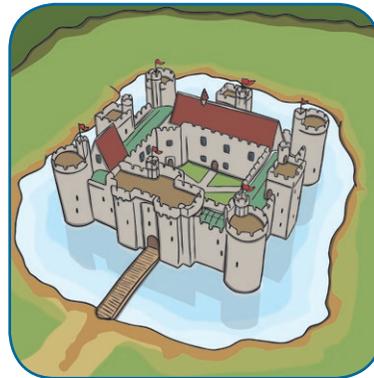
26 • The **portcullis** was the spiked metal or wood
31 barrier, which protected the doors.

38 • **Moats** filled with water surrounded the castle
46 to make it harder for enemies to enter.

53 • **Drawbridges** could be pulled up to stop
61 enemies getting across the moat, or let down
69 to allow people out of the castle easily.

77 • **Battlements** were the tooth-shaped top of the castle
86 walls, where the defenders could hide behind and fire
90 missiles through the gaps.

93 • Narrow windows called
98 **arrowslits** allowed arrows to be
105 shot out of the castle at enemies
109 without letting anything in.



Quick Questions



1. Which feature of the castle protected the doors?



2. What do you think the word 'defenders' might mean?



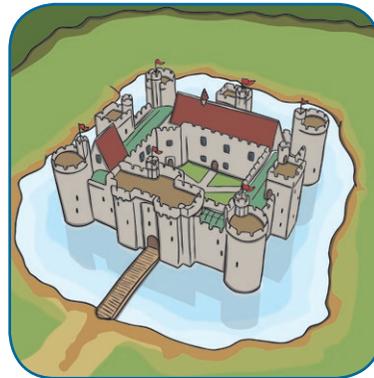
3. How do you think a moat made it harder for enemies to enter the castle?



4. Which feature of a castle do you think was the most important and why?

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Answers



1. Which feature of the castle protected the doors?
the portcullis



2. What do you think the word 'defenders' might mean?
The people defending/protecting/inside the castle.



3. How do you think a moat made it harder for enemies to enter the castle?
Accept any inferential answer, e.g. because enemies would need a boat to get across/ because enemies could be seen easily if they swam across.



4. Which feature of a castle do you think was the most important and why?
Accept any sensible answer as long as a reason is given, e.g. I think the moat was the most important feature because it protected the whole castle.