The word “crusade”:
It comes from the word “cross” because crusaders were to wear a cloth cross on their outer garments.

What were the crusades?
A series of 8 expansive military expeditions which the Western Christian people undertook roughly between the years of 1096 & 1270 to help the Byzantine & Palestinian Christians.
For the holiest crusaders, they were considered a charitable duty & a journey of faith.

The 2 honest motivations of the crusades:
➢ To fend off the threatening Turkish expansion into Byzantium.
➢ To free the Holy Land from Saracens for safe pilgrimage & worship of sacred sites.

Secondary motivations of the crusaders:
➢ Religious indulgences: the remission of temporal punishment for forgiven sins.
➢ The granting of financial & social privileges.
➢ The solving of medieval struggle with social violence & poverty.
➢ The increase of one’s wealth & power.

Actors of the crusades:
A great mix of heterogeneous peoples, races, social classes, generations...
The 3 feudal classes of medieval society, clergy, nobility, & peasantry, all together.
A great number of outcasts & villains.
The major preachers of the crusades were:
Urban II, Peter the Hermit, & Bernard of Clairveaux.
Some famous leaders were:
Godfrey of Bouillon, the first king of Jerusalem; Richard the Lionhearted, king of England; Barbarossa, king of Germany; and Philip, king of France.
Alexis, emperor of Byzantium, who feared the crusades as much as he needed them.
Pope Innocent III who condemned the 4th crusade.

Specifies of 3 of the crusades:

1st Crusade:
It started with the Council of Clermont. It was a very popular crusade. It was, at first, generous & well intended. It was structured & successful, with effects that lasted for 200 years. It led to the creation of Eastern Latin fiefs of Jerusalem, Tripoli, Antioch & Edessa. It led to the creation of military orders of knights/monks (Templars, Hospitalers…). It led to the first scandalous behavior of Christians (the crusaders) toward Jews & Muslims in the conquered cities.

3rd crusade:
It unified the kingdoms of Europe. Its only success was to obtain safe passage to the Holy Land for unarmed Christian pilgrims.

4th crusade:
The infamous crusade that stained the memory of the 7 other ones.
A crusade manipulated by Venetian merchants who used it to get rid of concurrent cities & to loot the wealth of Byzantium.
Venetians financially burdened the crusade.
Venetians forced the crusaders to serve their interest: they were to destroy & to loot for them concurrent Byzantine cities, under the threat of being left without resources while facing the Turks.
This crusade, in particular, made any attempt to heal the Great schism impossible.

Years of the crusades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crusade</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Crusade</td>
<td>1095-1099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Crusade</td>
<td>1147-1149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Crusade</td>
<td>1189-1192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Crusade</td>
<td>1202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Crusade</td>
<td>1212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth Crusade</td>
<td>1219-1221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth Crusade</td>
<td>1228-1229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh Crusade</td>
<td>1248-1254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighth Crusade</td>
<td>1270</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

QUESTIONS:
(ANSWER COMPLETELY ON A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER)

1. Could the crusades (except the 4th) be considered just wars? Why or why not?

A just war must:
- Be an answer to an unjustified aggression.
- Be the last possible resort.
- Make the situation better after the war than before it.
- Never make use of evil means.

2. Were the crusades a uniform series of events? Why or why not?

3. Is the unilateral negative view of the crusades justified? Why or why not?

4. What impact did the medieval context of feudalism & caesaropapism have on the crusades?