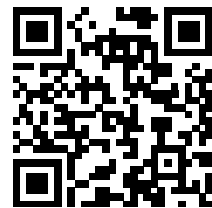


name: \_\_\_\_\_

class: \_\_\_\_\_

date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Early Irish Society and Brehon Laws



In early medieval Ireland, society was \_\_\_\_\_ around clans and families, each with its own territory. The Brehon Laws, a complex set of legal \_\_\_\_\_, governed every aspect of life, from property rights to personal conduct. These \_\_\_\_\_ were not written down initially but were memorized and interpreted by \_\_\_\_\_ known as Brehons. Under these laws, the concept of fines was used as the primary form of \_\_\_\_\_, emphasizing restitution over retribution. Land, being a critical resource, was held collectively by the \_\_\_\_\_, and individual rights to use the land were determined by one's \_\_\_\_\_ to the clan. Marriage in this period was seen as a contract to protect \_\_\_\_\_ and property, with specific laws regulating divorce and the rights of \_\_\_\_\_. The Brehon Laws were remarkably progressive in some areas, such as women's rights and environmental \_\_\_\_\_, with rules safeguarding the preservation of trees and water sources. They also recognized the importance of \_\_\_\_\_, granting protection to those who fled to certain designated \_\_\_\_\_. Despite their sophistication, the Brehon Laws began to decline with the arrival of the \_\_\_\_\_ in the 12th century, who introduced feudal laws that gradually replaced the indigenous legal \_\_\_\_\_. However, these ancient laws continued to influence certain areas of Irish life well into the 16th \_\_\_\_\_, reflecting the resilience of Irish culture and legal traditions.

punishment places Normans relationship protection laws spouses  
bloodlines rules century sanctuary clan organized jurists system