End of the Medieval Ages

- so why did the Medieval Ages end?
  - lasted for nearly 1000 years (500ish – 1500ish)
  - affected society in every different way

- there are many possible reasons for its decline:

a) *People moved off farms to cities*
  - less people to grow food and work for lords
  - now lower-classed people could be rich and successful

b) *The rise of governments*
  - control shifted from nobles to kings who sought to centralize power (keep it for themselves)
  - these "kingdoms" were early forms of government that led to nation building
  - after a period of time, countries like England had real parliaments which ran without kings
    - cancelled out the whole feudal system of rule

c) *New Technology*
  - with the introduction of longbows and gunpowder, knights were not as effective anymore
    - like the samurai in Japan, when guns start getting used, it helps to end the samurai's control
  - now, people did not have to fear knights if they had a big enough gun...

- there are lots of possibilities, but the fall of Feudalism (all three things above) results in the end of the Medieval Ages