

## Course of the First Four Crusades

Name:  
Date:  
Period:

There were nine Crusades fought by European Christians against Muslims in the Middle East. The following chart summarizes the first four.

Crusade	Years	Summary	Win or Lose?
First Crusade	1095-1099	At the urging of Pope Urban II in 1095, the First Crusade succeeded in taking Jerusalem and was the most successful from the European point of view. When Jerusalem fell in 1099, crusaders massacred Jews, Christians and Muslims alike. Then the leaders divided up the land into territories, each governed by a European feudal lord.	
Second Crusade	1147-1149	The Second Crusade started when Europeans lost control of Edessa, territory that they had previously controlled, to the Muslims. Led by King Louis VII of France and King Conrad III of Germany, the Europeans failed to regain any land and the crusade was a failure from a European point of view.	
Third Crusade	1189-1192	The Third Crusade was a response to Jerusalem's fall in 1187 to Salah al-Din (Saladin). Three great armies from Europe were led by Richard the Lion-hearted of England, Philip II of France, and the Holy Roman emperor Frederick Barbarossa, Europe's greatest warrior. However, Frederick accidentally drowned, the other two kings quarreled, and the whole crusade failed from a European point of view.	
Fourth Crusade	1201-1204	Instead of going to Jerusalem, the Fourth Crusade went to the Byzantine Empire's capital, Constantinople, for various reasons. The European armies looted (robbed) the city and overthrew the Byzantine emperor. The main outcomes of the Fourth Crusade were to deepen the division between Greek and Latin Christianity and to hasten the Byzantine Empire's decline.	

1. Read the summaries quietly to yourself.
2. Decide if it was a "win" or "lose" for the European Christians and write "win" or "lose" in the column above.
3. Underline or highlight evidence to support your claim.
4. Based on what you read, on a piece of notebook paper, write a response to this question:  
**Were the first four Crusades a success or failure for European Christians? Why or why not?**  
Remember, when answering a question like this, you MUST use full sentences and you MUST cite evidence from the reading. When explaining why, do not say "Because...." When you start a sentence with because, it usually is NOT a full sentence.