

Discuss these questions with your Chief Superintendent (teacher) as a class or with your colleagues in a group.

- 1 Why is the date 15 June 1215 important?
- 2 Who was the monarch? When and where did he rule?
- 3 What did Magna Carta do? Does it apply today? Are any parts still used today?
- 4 Who had the most power before the events at Runnymede – the monarch or the barons?
- 5 After he signed Magna Carta, could King John still claim he had absolute power?
- 6 Which piece of evidence suggests that the barons now had some power over the king? (You have some of the rules that King John had to agree to among your evidence. Match the pieces of Magna Carta with the translations. Study the drawings on Handout 2.)
- 7 Who benefits most from these rules? How did they benefit?

Case summary report

Write a paragraph to summarise your findings. Your report will reveal whether you have solved the mystery if you can answer this question: ‘Who had the power to make the rules by which people are governed in the time of King John?’

Don’t forget to write your official title, ‘Detective Constable’, on the report.