

Aim: How did the Plague impact Europe?



DO NOW

1. How would people react to this disease?
2. In your groups write down what effects a disease like this might have on our country and the people here use the chart below.

Imagine that over the course of the last four years a strange disease killed half of the people in the United States. The disease spread easily from person to person and though doctors gave a lot of advice, nothing worked to stop it.

Short Term	Long Term

Vocabulary

- Epidemic – a widespread occurrence of a disease
- Pandemic – widespread over a whole country or the world
- Plague – a contagious bacterial disease characterized by fever, insanity, and formation of buboes, and sometimes an infection of the lungs



What was the Black Plague?

- The Black Death, also known as the Black Plague, was a devastating epidemic that struck large portions of Asia, the Middle East, and Europe in the 14th century. In the early 1300s, China experienced a breakout of the plague. As a result of the expansion of trade during this time period, the plague was carried west into the Middle East and Europe. The plague killed about 35 million people in China, about a third of the population of Europe, and at its peak, killed 7,000 people a day in Cairo, Egypt. In total around the world, at least 75 million people were killed by the disease in the mid 1300s.
- Most scientists now believe that the Black Death was an outbreak of bubonic plague, which is a disease caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis* which lives in rodents like rats. Rats, which were common in Medieval cities, often had fleas on them. The fleas bit the rats, then jumped onto humans and bit them, which spread the disease to humans. Once the disease was in a person it was spread from person to person through body fluid and coughing.

Rat contracts the bacterium *Yersinia Pestis*



Flea jumps on rat and bites it and has rat blood in its mouth.



Flea jumps on human and bites, mixing rat and human blood and giving human *Yersinia Pestis*.





- 1) WHERE DID IT ORIGINATE?
- 2) HOW DID THE DISEASE TRAVEL?

The Effects - Primary Source



1. Who wrote this text? when was it written? Is this a primary or secondary source? How do you know?
2. According to the author, what brought the plague to Messina?
3. What methods did people use to stop the spread of the plague?
4. How can the patriarch giving all clergy the ability to perform absolution (forgiveness) and last rites be important information?
5. Leonard W. Courie wrote that “Faith in religion decreased after the plague.” What evidence from this account might support Courie’s claim?
6. Identify and explain a cause and effect relationship between what is depicted in the map entitled and Michael Platiensis’s account.

MIDDLE ASSESSMENT

- •1340s—Mongols, merchants, and other travelers carried disease along trade routes west of China.
- •1346—The plague reached the Black Sea ports of Caffa and Tana.
- •1347—Italian merchants fled plague--infected Black Sea ports.
- •1348—The plague became an epidemic in most of western Europe.
- Which conclusion can be made based on these statements?
- (1) The plague primarily affected China.
- (2) The interaction of people spread the plague.
- (3) Port cities were relatively untouched by the plague.
- (4) The plague started in western Europe.

Sourcing Analysis

Explain the extent to which Michael Platiensis's account is a reliable source of evidence about the spread of the Black Death. (3 sentences)

Questions to consider when describing a source's reliability.

1.Does the source include evidence about the given topic?

2.Is the source primary or secondary?

3.Is the author biased?

4.What makes this source reliable, does it match other historical information?
What are the limitations of the source to give evidence about the topic?

Ted Ed Video -The past, present and future of the bubonic plague

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ySClB6-OH-Q>



What happened at the end of the middle ages making Europe vulnerable to an epidemic?

While the video plays write down the long-term effects of the Plague on Europe

How is this an enduring issue according to the video?

At your table fill in your chart using your document and then take turns sharing with your table

Effect	Short Term	Long Term
Political		
Economic		
Social		

Rise in Hatred Against the Jews

- A. Many people believed the Jews – already a hated minority – were behind the plague
- B. Many riots and killings in Jewish communities of Europe. Including a Valentines Day Massacre where 2,000 Jews were murdered in the city Strasbourg
- C. Jews, already marginalized and forced to live in the **GHETTO** and their money and possessions were taken away from them.
- D. Other Jewish people were forced into exile



Could impact of epidemics be an enduring issue?



Coronavirus – present day has already taken the lives of over 2,000 Chinese citizens

Components	Sentence(s)	Sentence Starters
describe how people were affected		This event had negative effects such as...
describe what groups of people were affected. Describe how many people were affected		This event impacted the entire region of...
describe how long lasting the changes were (long term impacts on people)		The plague impacted the lives of Europeans over the next few centuries by...

Final Assessment: Fill in this chart

Throughout history one enduring issue has been epidemics, which have led to economic, social, and political impacts on people.

Extra video - The Black Death Begins- History Channel

◦ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bnh3Hp4sqIs>

