



BLACK DEATH

Date: _____

Name: _____

Class: _____

1 What has to happen for a disease to become a pandemic?

- A** It has to kill one thousand people
- B** It has to originate in Asia
- C** It has to be able to be transmitted from person to person
- D** It has to spread over a large portion of the world

2 Place the following events in sequence: A) The Black Death hits China; B) Plague-infested ships land at Messina, Italy; C) The Black Death hits the Middle East

- A** A, B, C
- B** A, C, B
- C** B, C, A
- D** C, A, B

3 What was the relationship between the famine that struck Europe in the 14th century and the spread of the Black Death?

- A** Famine and hunger caused more people to get sick and die
- B** The plague was spread through infected crops
- C** The same bad weather that caused famine caused the Black Death
- D** Imported crops from Asia caused the Black Death to spread to Europe

4  How much of the population of Europe died during the Black Death?

- A** Between half and three-quarters
- B** Between one-quarter and one-half
- C** Between one-third and two-thirds
- D** Between one-tenth and two tenths

5 Which term describes medical practices as they existed in the 14th century?

- A** Sophisticated
- B** Modern
- C** Primitive
- D** Effective

6  What effect did bloodletting have on plague patients?

- A** It made them sicker, if it had any effect at all
- B** It helped the disease leave their bloodstreams
- C** It prevented new infections from taking hold
- D** It prolonged their lives

7 How could people in the 14th century have best prevented the spread of plague?

- A** By seeing doctors more often
- B** By using folk remedies
- C** By avoiding travel
- D** By practicing basic hygiene and sanitation

8 What type of illness is the bubonic plague?

- A** A viral illness
- B** A bacterial illness
- C** A miasmal illness
- D** A food-borne illness

9 How can you catch the bubonic plague?

- A** By being bitten by a rat
- B** By being bitten by a flea
- C** By being bitten by a mouse
- D** By shaking hands with an infected person

10 Why were peasants able to demand more money and more freedom in the aftermath of the Black Death?

- A** Because there was a shortage of laborers
- B** Because there was a shortage of farmland
- C** Because there was a shortage of food
- D** Because there was a shortage of water