

What was the Black Death?

1	What were the symptoms of the Black Death?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Painful buboes appeared in the armpit or groin 2. Vomiting and fever 3. Bleeding under the skin caused dark splotches on the body 4. The disease attacked the nervous system 5. Death
2	What caused the Black Death?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It was spread by fleas living on rats that were moving through Europe on merchant ships
3	What did Medieval people think caused the Black Death?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God sent it as a punishment for sin 2. Bad air (called miasma) caused the disease 3. The bad alignment of the stars (astrology)

Treating the Black Death

1	Where could people go for treatment?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People could visit barber surgeons – but they had little training 2. They could visit wise women – they had some herbal knowledge but mixed this with magical practices 3. They could visit a priest for forgiveness
2	What treatments did people try?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The most common treatment was prayer 2. Drinking vinegar 3. Bleeding to balance the four humours 4. Sweating out the illness 5. Eating old treacle
3	What extreme treatments did people try?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Some highly religious people whipped themselves to punish themselves. 2. As God sent the disease, if they showed they were sorry then God would forgive them

Consequences of the Black Death

1	Social	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1/3 of the English & Welsh population died 2. It took 250 years for the population to recover
2	Political	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peasants started to challenge authority as they believed God had spared them
3	Economic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With fewer workers, they could demand higher wages 2. Women had more job opportunities
4	Religious	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People started to lose faith in the Catholic church and new religious groups appeared

The Peasants Revolt

1	What caused the revolt?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Edward III tried to stop peasants moving around for better wages with the Statute of Labourers 2. Richard II (his son) raised Poll tax, which the peasants felt was unfair
2	What did the rebels do?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 4000 rebels marched to London 2. They burnt John of Gaunt's palace and killed the Archbishop of Canterbury
3	How did Richard stop them?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. He met with the rebels 2. He killed their leader Wat Tyler 3. He promised to give them what they wanted if they went home 4. He went back on this promise and hanged the other leaders

Key Word	Definitions
Astrology	The belief that the stars and planets have effects on earth
Barber Surgeon	A barber who would offer some medical treatment medieval
Buboe	Painful black swellings that were about the size of an egg
Bubonic Plague	The official name for the Black Death
Clergy	People who are part of the Catholic church e.g. a bishop
Flagellant	Someone who whipped themselves to punish themselves for sin
Four Humours	In the Middle Ages they believed your body was made up for four liquids that needed to be in balance for you to be healthy
Miasma	Bad air
Physician	The name for doctors in the Middle Ages
Poll tax	everyone (rich and poor) paid the same amount
Pneumonic Plague	The official name for when the Black Death became air-borne
Revolt	When a group rebel against their leader
Yeomen	A new class in medieval England