

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. Which of the following events occurred in 1347?
  - Ⓐ Pope Clement VI issued a declaration that Jews were not at fault for the Black Death.
  - Ⓑ The Black Death spread to North Africa.
  - Ⓒ The Peasants' Revolt, which was a major uprising against the upper class, began.
  - Ⓓ The Black Death arrived in Italy through trading ships.
2. What is the main idea of the section titled "The Rebirth"?
  - Ⓐ Europe experienced a time of change after the Black Death ended.
  - Ⓑ Trading ships from Asia brought the Black Death to Europe.
  - Ⓒ Dr. Fleming discovered penicillin in the 1920s.
  - Ⓓ Many city dwellers fled to the country to avoid the plague.
3. What caused the spread of the plague?
  - Ⓐ infected rodents bringing dirt into people's homes
  - Ⓑ fleas biting infected rodents and then biting people
  - Ⓒ stray cats living in alleyways and garbage dumps
  - Ⓓ stray cats eating infected rodents and then living with people
4. What was the author's purpose for writing this book?
  - Ⓐ to persuade readers that the discovery of penicillin was the greatest discovery of our time
  - Ⓑ to persuade readers that the Black Death was the worst outbreak of disease in Europe's history
  - Ⓒ to inform readers about the Black Death and its impact on Europe
  - Ⓓ to inform readers about the importance of modern medicine to kill bacteria

*Quick Check continued on following page*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is an **immune system**?

- Ⓐ a thick, yellowish-white liquid that is produced by infected tissue
- Ⓑ a system that moves antibodies through the body to fight infection
- Ⓒ a system of keeping a place clean or removing waste
- Ⓓ an illness spread through direct or indirect contact

6. What conclusion can you draw from the section titled "The Fleas of Disease"?

- Ⓐ People tried many useless cures for the Black Death, such as buying potions made from "unicorn horns."
- Ⓑ Trading ships that docked in Messina, Sicily, brought the Black Death with them from Asia.
- Ⓒ Bubonic plague bacteria start by attacking the lymph nodes in the neck, groin, and underarms, which can impact the immune system.
- Ⓓ Most historians agree that the Black Death was caused by a bacteria known as *Yersinia pestis*, which was spread through flea bites.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

7. How does the map on page 3 help the reader better understand the spread of the Black Plague?
  - Ⓐ It shows the symptoms of the Black Plague based on location.
  - Ⓑ It shows the dates on which different areas of Europe were affected.
  - Ⓒ It shows the death toll in each part of Europe in the 1300s.
  - Ⓓ It shows the parts of Europe that were overrun with fleas and rats.
8. What is one way the people of Europe thought diseases spread in the 1300s?
  - Ⓐ the alignment of the planets
  - Ⓑ bacteria or viruses
  - Ⓒ rodent bites
  - Ⓓ leaving trash on the street
9. Which period in Europe's history came after the Black Death?
  - Ⓐ the Renaissance
  - Ⓑ the Dark Ages
  - Ⓒ the Middle Ages
  - Ⓓ the Stone Age
10. What does **infectious** mean?
  - Ⓐ the act, process, or facilities used to keep a place clean or remove waste
  - Ⓑ the sudden spread of something unwelcome
  - Ⓒ referring to diseases that can spread from one organism to another
  - Ⓓ from a country or a faraway place
11. **Extended Response:** How did the Black Death spread throughout Europe, and why did it spread so quickly? Explain.
12. **Extended Response:** If penicillin had been invented in the 1300s, would the Black Death have happened? Why or why not?

## Quick Check Answer Sheet

## The Plague!

Main Comprehension Skill: Cause and Effect

1. Ⓓ *Sequence Events*
2. Ⓐ *Main Idea and Details*
3. Ⓑ *Cause and Effect*
4. Ⓒ *Author's Purpose*
5. Ⓑ *Vocabulary*
6. Ⓓ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
7. Ⓑ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
8. Ⓐ *Cause and Effect*
9. Ⓐ *Sequence Events*
10. Ⓒ *Vocabulary*
11. Answers should include that sailors from Asia brought the Black Death to Europe and that the disease spread through fleas that bit infected rodents and then bit people. Answers should also include that the disease spread so quickly because the people did not understand that viruses and bacteria caused diseases, and there was no medicine to stop the disease.
12. Answers will vary but should include the students' opinion and details from the text to support their opinion.