

## Knowledge organiser: Did the Black Death bring destruction or opportunity?



<p>The Black Death killed over a third of England's population and dramatically transformed the long-standing structure of feudalism. The lower classes gained more rights, such as higher pay and freedom to move, whereas the nobility lost their control and power. Historians like Claire Kennan have said that 'despite damage and decay in some areas, there was opportunity and optimism in others' as a result of the Black Death. This unit will look at the <b>CONSEQUENCES</b> of the Black Death.</p>		Chronology: what happened on these dates?		Vocabulary: define these words	
		<b>1338-39</b>	The first recorded outbreak of the Black Death was in central Asia.	<b>Plague</b>	A very infectious disease that spreads quickly and kills large numbers of people.
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Summarise your learning</b></p>		<b>1348</b>	The Black Death reached England by ship, killing almost a third of the population.	<b>Pandemic</b>	The worldwide spread of a disease.
		<b>1351</b>	The Statute of Labourers was introduced to prevent changes in wages and working conditions for peasants.	<b>Symptom</b>	A physical or mental change that is caused by a disease.
<b>Topic 1:</b> How smelly were the Middle Ages?	Medieval people knew nothing about germs, so they did not care about living in smelly, dirty places. Sewage piled up in the street, people used the rivers to remove waste, and few streets were paved, so they became very muddy.	<b>1377</b>	The first Poll Tax is introduced, which everyone had to pay.	<b>Prevention</b>	The action of stopping something from happening.
<b>Topic 2:</b> What was the Black Death?	The Black Death was a highly infectious disease known as the bubonic plague. The plague was first recorded in central Asia and travelled along the trade routes to Europe. The infected suffered from fever and swellings, killing most of its victims.	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Bubonic Plague</b></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Pneumonic Plague</b></p> </div> </div>		<b>Contagious</b>	A disease spread from one person to another, typically by direct contact.
<b>Topic 3:</b> How did people respond to the Black Death?	Medical knowledge was limited at the time of the Black Death. People believed the plague was caused by the alignment of the planets, miasma (bad air) and a punishment from God. Treatments included smelling herbs, bleeding, praying or running away.			<b>Population</b>	All the people living in a country, city, or area.
<b>Topic 4:</b> What were the short-term consequences?	The Black Death killed over 1/3 of the population in England. As there was a shortage of workers farms were abandoned and villages were deserted. Some people believed any day could be their last, so they lived wildly and carelessly.			<b>Damage</b>	Destruction or harm to a person, village or country resulting from an action or event.
<b>Topic 5:</b> What were the long-term consequences?	The Black Death started to break down the Feudal System. As there were fewer peasants around, they could now demand more pay and choose who they worked for. Landlords were not pleased and began to demand that these changes had to stop.			<b>Decay</b>	To become slowly destroyed, worse, or less than it was before.
<b>Topic 6:</b> How did the Black Death impact Medieval society?	The Black Death caused fundamental changes to society. Peasants and women gained more freedoms, whereas the nobility and the King lost their power and control over England.			<b>Opportunity</b>	A situation that makes it possible to do something that you want to do or achieve progress.
		<b>Optimism</b>	The feeling of being hopeful that good things will happen and that the future will be successful.		

