The Black Death in Europe

Mid-1300s
Petrarch, Poem 5 in *The Canzoniere*

When I utter sighs, in calling out to you, with the name that Love wrote on my heart, the sound of its first sweet accents begin to be heard within the word LAUdable.

Your REgal state, that I next encounter, doubles my power for the high attempt; but: 'TAcit', the ending cries, 'since to do her honour is for other men's shoulders, not for yours'.

So, whenever one calls out to you, the voice itself teaches us to LAud, REvere, you, O, lady worthy of all reverence and honour:

except perhaps that Apollo is disdainful that morTAl tongue can be so presumptuous as to speak of his eternally green branches.
Write the following questions in your notes. Answer them as we learn about the Black Death.

How did it spread?

What were the symptoms?

What did people blame?

What are the effects of the plague?
Where did it come from?

- Most sources say that the plague began in Central Asia before spreading to Europe.
- There are three variations of the plague: the bubonic, septicemic (affecting blood), and pneumonic (affecting lungs).
- Many sources say that fleas on rats carried the plague and then spread it throughout populations.
- Other sources say that the virus could have been incubated in humans as the pneumonic plague long enough to spread and kill the number of people who died during the European outbreak.
What was the Black Death?

Believe it or not, we aren’t 100% sure.
• Some sources say the Black Death was a combination of the bubonic and pneumonic plagues.
• Other (fewer) sources say Black Death was primarily a hemorrhagic plague.

What were the symptoms?
Symptoms... buckle up, kids.

• The first sign of the plague was often an ache in the limbs.
• The lymph nodes would then swell, which are found in the neck, armpits, and groin. The area would turn red and then black as tissue began dying.
• The swelling continues for three or four days, and victims experience pain as parts of the body begin to rot and decay.

• Victims vomit blood as well. Finally, the lymph nodes burst.
• The swiftness of the disease, the enormous pain and the grotesque appearance of its victims served to make the plague especially terrifying.
• Death from the plague was horrible, but **swift**. The Italian writer Boccaccio said victims often "ate lunch with their friends, and ate dinner with their ancestors in paradise."
Why did it happen in Europe?

• Europeans were susceptible to disease because many people lived in crowded surroundings in an era when personal hygiene was not considered important.

• Fourteenth century medicine in Europe was primitive and unable to remedy an illness that modern technology might have cured.

• Bad medical advice also advanced the plague. People were advised to not bathe because open skin pores might let in the disease.
What did people blame?

- Some Europeans believed the plague was a sign from God. Groups known as flagellants tried to atone for the sins of the world by inflicting punishments upon themselves.
- People also had a tendency to persecute Jews and even clergymen who spoke out against them.
- Eccentric and unusual people were often charged with witchcraft and sorcery.
What effect did the Plague have?

• The Great Plague transformed European society. Entire villages were sickened, forcing the few remaining survivors to move to cities to find work.

• Labor shortages caused by the death toll led to increased wages.

• Feudal lands were often converted to grazing because grazing required less labor than farming. The need for a public response to the health crisis also led to a weakening of feudalism and the development of more modern government in many places.
• The Great Plague continued to affect cities from time to time for hundreds of years. It still exists and is common among rodents.

• We have a cure for the disease, but occasionally people in isolated places still die from Bubonic Plague.
Disease Gallery Walk

• Choose one non-genetic disease to study in-depth.
• Using your MacBook, research your chosen disease and create a one-page flyer about it.
• Consider answering these questions: (14 pts for content)
  – How/when/where did this disease emerge?
  – What are the causes, symptoms, and treatment (if any)?
  – To what extent is this disease preventable?
  – How has our understanding of this changed over time?
  – To what extent is this disease still a threat?
• Your flyer should be visually appealing and organized. (3 pts)
• Cite a minimum of three sources with a simple URL at the bottom of your flyer. (No Wikipedia!) (3 pts)
• Print your flyer when finished. This is worth 20 pts total.
• KEEP ALL PHONES AWAY
Examples of flyer designs

PARKINSON’S DISEASE

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
Parkinson’s disease is caused by the deterioration of neurons in the brain that produce dopamine, an essential neurotransmitter that controls muscle function.

Deep brain stimulation (DBS) may be used to treat some of the debilitating symptoms of Parkinson’s disease. DBS uses a surgically implanted, battery-operated medical device to deliver electrical stimulation to targeted areas in the brain that control movement.

The physicians at IGEA Brain & Spine are leaders in the use of Deep Brain Stimulation treatment. If you or a loved one are suffering from the effects of Parkinson’s Disease, call us at 908-206-4807 or visit igeaneuro.com for more information.

IGEA BRAIN & SPINE

10 EARLY WARNING SIGNS OF PARKINSONS DISEASE

1. Tremors or shaking
2. A sudden change in handwriting
3. Stiffness or lack of arm swinging while walking
4. Masked face or loss of facial expression
5. Stooping or hunching over
6. Difficulty with constipation
7. A soft or low voice
8. Dizziness or fainting
9. Loss of smell
10. Freezing in place while deeply asleep

Source: National Parkinson Foundation

HOW TO SELECT A SUNSCREEN

Choosing the right sunscreen can help reduce the risk of skin cancer and early skin aging caused by the sun.

SUNSCREEN IS AN IMPORTANT TOOL in the fight against skin cancer, including melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer.

1 in 5 Americans will be diagnosed with skin cancer in their lifetime.

The American Academy of Dermatology recommends consumers choose a sunscreen which states on the label:

1. SPF 30 OR HIGHER

BROAD SPECTRUM

Water Resistant (40 minutes)

ONE OUNCE OF SUNSCREEN, enough to fill a shot glass, is considered the amount needed to cover the exposed areas of the body.