Year 8 History: Cause and Effect in Ancient and Medieval Europe

Choose either:
Causes and Effects of the Fall of Western Rome, 476 AD
Causes and Effects of the Black Death, 1348

Create a concept map.

1. Identify 4-5 causes or contributing factors and 4-5 effects or outcomes for your chosen event.
2. Describe each cause and effect in 4-5 sentences, using the most accurate and precise wording possible (see the suggested wording below).
3. Identify the key words for this event and define them clearly within your concept map, e.g. empire, power vacuum (fall of Western Rome); pneumonic plague, feudal system (Black Death). Use explanations, symbols and examples to support your definition.
4. Set out your definitions, causes and effects in a carefully designed concept map on an A3 sheet of paper. Don’t forget to use symbols and simple pictures. Ensure that your work is visually appealing and clearly presented with a bibliography.

Example: An Effect of the Fall of Rome

Since Rome had dominated the political landscape of ancient Europe, northern Africa and the Middle East, its collapse in 476 AD led to a power vacuum. In the power struggles that followed, several new states began to emerge. This process involved conflict and warfare; decisions about land and possession were increasingly based on which group had the power to seize and hold land and impose its will on the inhabitants.

VERBS/PHRASES
to cause, to lead to, to influence, to bring about, to generate, to induce, to provoke, to trigger, to give rise to, to be a factor in, to play a role in, to contribute to

NOUNS
impact, consequence, result, catalyst, trigger, outcome, influence, effect

ADJECTIVES
profound, substantial, lasting, short-term, long-term, sudden, influential, catastrophic