The Dance of Death
In the Middle Ages, death was an ever-present reality, a constant threat.

Key Words for Describing the Black Death
Write the letter of each sentence start beside its corresponding end. Refer to pages 304-305 of your text. The words in bold appear in the order of the text.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sentence Start</th>
<th>Sentence End</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a A pandemic is…</td>
<td>…a swollen lump that appeared on the victim’s skin, especially the groin, neck and underarms.</td>
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<tr>
<td>b A bubo is…</td>
<td>…infected the bloodstream. It was the rarest and most deadly form of the plague.</td>
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<tr>
<td>c The plague…</td>
<td>…because it could be spread by the sick person coughing out infected droplets.</td>
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<tr>
<td>d The bubonic form of the plague…</td>
<td>…is also referred to as the “Black Death” by historians.</td>
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<tr>
<td>e The pneumonic form of the plague…</td>
<td>…buboes, fever, headaches, loss of motor control and vomiting.</td>
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<tr>
<td>f The pneumonic form was highly contagious….</td>
<td>…attacked the lungs and respiratory system of the victim.</td>
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<tr>
<td>g The septicaemic plague…</td>
<td>…an infectious disease that spreads widely in a short period of time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h The symptoms of the Black Death included…</td>
<td>…was spread or transmitted by infected fleas that lived on black rats.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key Numbers About the Black Death
Fill in the missing numbers and dates in the sentences below. Refer to pages 304-306.

2\textsuperscript{nd} • 50\% • 1330 • \frac{1}{3} • 100\% • 1351 • 75\%

a It is estimated that _____ of the people in medieval Europe died from the plague. (p.304)
b Almost _________ of the victims of the septicaemic plague died. (p.304)
c The pneumonic plague was the _________ most common form of the disease. (p.304)
d It is believed that between _________ and _________ of those who contracted the plague died. (p.305)
e Between _________ and _________, the Black Death swept across Asia, Europe, Northern Africa and the Middle East. (p.306)

Roslyn Green – The Black Death - Introduction and Key Vocabulary – Year 8 History
Key Concepts in Pictures: Can you label each picture below?

Labels for the Pictures
black rat • bubo • catapult • lungs • merchants and traders • Yersinia pestis

(Drawing below by Phyllis, a former student)

Key Terms in Context: Write the letters a-f from the pictures above beside the corresponding explanation below. Then place the following words in the spaces.

Africa • bacteria • biological • bubonic • contagious • pneumonic • Silk Road • victims

☐ The ____________ plague infected the lungs, therefore attacking the respiratory system of the sufferer. It was highly ____________; it could be spread by the victims’ coughs and the resulting droplets, just like the common cold.

☐ The ____________ plague was spread when an infected flea that had lived on a black rat bit a human being. Since most people in the Middle Ages expected to have fleas and since the environment was filthy and unsanitary, the plague spread rapidly from town to town.

☐ It is believed that trade being carried out along the ____________ from Asia to Europe, along with the merchant ships that carried cargo from port to port, made it easy for the plague to spread from Asia to Europe, the Middle East and ____________.

☐ According to some historical documents, the plague provided an opportunity for an early type of ____________ warfare, when the Tatar army used catapults to fling the bodies of diseased soldiers into the enemy city.

☐ In the Middle Ages, no one knew of the existence of ____________, tiny organisms that can cause disease. It was only in 1894 that Alexandre Yersin identified the bacterium that is now believed to have caused the plague of the 1300s.

☐ One symptom of the plague was the painful buboes that developed in the groin, armpits and necks of ____________.

For speedy workers and super writers: Write a short summary of what you know so far, using these words: ⅓ plague • bubo(es) • types of plague • black rat • fleas • symptoms