1.9 The Black Death, 1348-49: Causes, Spread and Contemporary Responses: Test Pack

EDEXCEL 1HI0 · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. You are advised to spend about 15 minutes on this pack.

1 Give the year in which the Black Death first arrived in England.

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 Name one medieval explanation for the cause of the Black Death that blamed bad air or fumes.

(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)

3 State two ways the Black Death spread across Europe to reach England in 1348.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

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4 Explain two ways in which contemporary explanations of the Black Death in 1348-49 were similar to explanations of disease in later medieval England around 1500.

(Total for Question 4 is 4 marks)

5 Describe two features of how medieval physicians attempted to treat victims of the Black Death in 1348-49.

(Total for Question 5 is 4 marks)

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Mark scheme · 1.9 The Black Death, 1348-49: Causes, Spread and Contemporary Responses: Test Pack

Question 1

1348 **B1**

Answer: 1348

Question 2

miasma (bad air) **B1**

Answer: Miasma, or bad air

Question 3

by trade ships carrying infected rats and fleas between ports **B1**

overland along trade and military routes as infected people and goods moved **B1**

Answer: By trade ships carrying infected rats and fleas into ports, and overland along trade and military routes as infected people and goods moved.

Question 4

identifies a similarity, e.g. both periods commonly appealed to miasma or bad air as a cause of disease **B1**

supporting detail, e.g. physicians in 1348-49 and around 1500 recommended fumigation, carrying posies and burning aromatic substances to counter bad air **B1**

identifies a second supporting point or clarification, e.g. both periods also used humoural theory to explain individual susceptibility **B1**

supporting detail for that point, e.g. treatments like bloodletting and purging were recommended in both periods to restore humoral balance **B1**

Answer: Both periods commonly used miasma and humoural theory to explain disease, so fumigation and aromatic posies to counter bad air, and bloodletting or purging to restore humoral balance, were recommended in 1348-49 and still in use around 1500.

Question 5

feature 1 identified, e.g. bloodletting was used in an attempt to remove contaminated humours **B1**

supporting detail for feature 1, e.g. physicians and barber-surgeons applied leeches or cut veins to let blood out **B1**

feature 2 identified, e.g. use of herbal remedies and fumigation to cleanse the air or body **B1**

supporting detail for feature 2, e.g. nostrums, posies and aromatic compounds were prepared to drive away 'bad air' or to strengthen the patient **B1**

Answer: They practised bloodletting, using leeches or vein-cutting to remove humours, and they used herbal remedies and fumigation, preparing posies and aromatic compounds to cleanse the air or strengthen the patient.

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