Trade Routes and Plague

➤ Gathering the Facts

1. Turn to pages 64–65 in the Atlas. Read the introduction. Use the information to answer the following questions.

   a. What goods did northern Europeans trade? _____ wool cloth _____, _____ grain _____, _____ wine _____, and _____ silver _____

   b. What trade goods did Europeans get from Asia?
      _____ silk _____, _____ perfume _____, and _____ spices _____

   c. What spread the plague along trade routes to the Mediterranean?
      _____ rats _____, _____ fleas _____, and _____ people _____

   d. What percentage of people in Europe died from the plague? _____ 25 _____

➤ Location

2. Use graph A, “Top 10 Cities, 1200,” to tally the number of cities in each of the regions listed below.

   a. Southern Europe, Western Asia, and Northern Africa ______ 6 ______

   b. East and Southeast Asia ______ 4 ______

➤ Places, Regions, and Landscapes

3. Use map B, “European Trade,” to complete the following paragraph.

Traders in Europe traveled along _____ land and river _____ and _____ sea _____ routes. Some cities in northern Europe formed an alliance called the _____ Hanseatic League _____ to secure control of trade in the _____ Baltic _____ and _____ North _____ Seas. Three cities in this alliance were _____ Any three: Bergen, Visby, Riga, Hamburg, Lubeck, Danzig _____, and _____ Magdeberg, Krakow, or Cologne ____. Trade in the western Mediterranean was controlled by the city of _____ Genoa _____, while the city of _____ Venice _____ controlled trade between Asia and Europe. European sea routes crossed the following seas: _____ North Sea _____, _____ Baltic Sea _____, _____ Mediterranean Sea _____, and _____ Black Sea _____.
History Through Maps

4. Use map C, “Spread of Bubonic Plague,” to sequence the following events in chronological order. Write 1 next to the event that occurred first and 7 next to the event that occurred last.

   a. Plague reaches Cologne.  
   b. Plague breaks out in Crimea.  
   c. Plague reaches Baltic Sea region.  
   d. Plague reaches Venice.  
   e. Plague begins in China.  
   f. Plague kills more than one-third of London’s population.  
   g. Plague reaches Constantinople.

   1  2  3  4  5  6  7

Time and Change

5. Read the history question, “How did the plague change Europe?” and look at graph E, “Population of Europe, 800–1500.” Use the information to answer the following questions.

   a. By how many millions did the population of Europe grow between 800 and the strike of the plague?  

   about 50

   b. Did the largest growth in population occur—before or after the barbarian invasions ended?  

   after Why do you think this was so?  

   Times were relatively peaceful, death by war and attacks diminished.

   c. About how many people died from the plague?  

   20 million

   d. About how many years did it take for the population to recover from the loss due to the plague?  

   150 years

   e. How did the plague positively affect European peasants?  

   They were able to get higher wages and lower taxes because so few workers were left.

Thinking About History

6. Look at picture D. Why did the plague spread so easily in Venice?

The city was a major port for trade ships, the city was overcrowded and had poor sanitation.