

History

Was the Black Death good or bad for England?	
Good	Bad
Trade fell so prices of goods dropped.	An estimated 1.5 million people died.
Crops in fields were left to rot.	Some villages were deserted.
Many peasants had greater freedom of movement - they could choose to move somewhere where they might be treated better.	The Lord of the Manor could not get enough people to live and work on his land. Some Lords were prepared to pay higher wages as a result.
Some lords refused to pay wages, making peasants work for nothing.	Half the clergy were wiped out.
Many lords tried to poach peasants from other manors by offering them higher wages.	Trade fell so prices of goods dropped.
Peasants were able to bargain with lords to farm more land at lower rents because there was so much unused land around.	

Revision list

Here is some advice for your History exam. Your test will be in 3 sections and will be out of 40 marks.

1. Terms and Concepts - (Spend up to 25 minutes on this section - it is worth 20 marks)

This section tests your understanding of important terms and concepts that you have covered this year.

This section will test your basic factual knowledge and understanding of:

- the feudal system- barons, knights, peasants and how it helps control England.
- Castles- motte and bailey features and improvements in defence with stone keeps
- the Black Death- describing the symptoms, cures and impact

Questions gain between 1 and 6 marks. Write in more depth if more marks are being awarded. For example, if you are asked to define a term, such as 'Domesday Book', for 3 marks, then you would be expected to describe 3 things about it, such as what it was, when it was written and why it was produced.

2. Source Analysis (Spend 20 minutes on this section - it is worth 10 marks)

This section will test your ability to interrogate source material based on content you have covered this year. You will need to be familiar with the reign of King John and the Black Death.

3. Knowledge & Understanding (Spend 25 minutes on this section - it is worth 10 marks) There are 2 questions, of which you will choose one.

In your revision you should consider:-

- i) the challenge from the Church to the power of the king (e.g. case study of Thomas Becket)**
- ii) the challenge to power of the king and rulers (lords of the manor) by common people (e.g. case study of the Black Death and what happened afterwards; consider the peasants' revolt as a long term consequence.)**

It is worth 10 marks.

The test is an opportunity for you to demonstrate what you know and what you understand. You can draw on any examples across the whole period. There are no 'trick' questions. You do **not need to learn the precise dates of events but you do need to know the sequence in which they come in time (the chronology), eg. that Thomas Becket's murder was before King John was on the throne.**