# CAUSATION: THE BLACK DEATH

**Purpose**

Building your causal reasoning skills and your understanding of cause and consequence will help you understand change over time and strengthen your ability to develop arguments in response to a prompt.

**Process**

1. **Brainstorm:** Using what you've learned about the Black Death, write all the possible causes and consequences that led to the spread of this disease in the chart below. If you need to refresh your memory, review "Trade Networks and the Black Death" and Source Collection: The Black Death.

| Causes of the Black Death | Consequences of the Black Death |
|---|---|
| | |

2. On the next page, you'll see the Causation Tool.
   - Fill in the information about the event (dates, location, description).
   - Categorize the causes you've brainstormed into long term, intermediate term, and short term.



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## Causation Tool

1. Add the event you are analyzing and corresponding information. Then, if your teacher asks you to create a causal map, use your answers here to help construct that causal representation.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Event** | |
| **Dates** | |
| **Location** | |
| **Brief description** | |

2. List your causes and use the legend to help you label type and role.

| **Causes: Long-term** | **Intermediate-term** | **Short-term** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |

3. List the effects of the event and use the legend to help you label type and role.

| **Effects** |
|---|
| |

**Legend**

| **Type** | | **Role** |
|---|---|---|
| (**P**) Political<br>(**I**) Innovation<br>(**$**) Economic | (**C**) Cultural<br>(**E**) Environmental<br>(**S**) Social | (  ) Triggering event—the most immediate cause of an event<br>Necessary<br>Relevant |