1347 – 1353

Put the Events in Order

Name _____ Date _____

These 7 events from the Black Death timeline are out of order. Write a number from 1 to 7 in each box, from the earliest event (1) to the latest (7).

☐ **Blame and Violence Against Jewish Communities**
As the death toll mounts and people search for a cause, mobs across Europe attack Jewish communities, falsely accusing them of poisoning wells; Pope Clement VI issues a decree ordering the violence to stop, but it continues in many cities.

☐ **Spreads to England and Northern Europe**
The plague crosses the English Channel, reaches London in 1348, then spreads north and east across England, Scandinavia, and into the Holy Roman Empire, killing deeply in both cities and the countryside.

☐ **Plague Ships Arrive in Sicily**
Ships from the Black Sea dock at Messina, Sicily, carrying dying sailors covered in black swellings — within days, townspeople fall sick and the plague begins spreading through Sicily.

☐ **First Wave Ends**
The worst of the first wave of the Black Death recedes; it has killed an estimated 25–50 million people in Europe — roughly 30 to 60 percent of the continent's population; the plague returns in periodic outbreaks for the next three centuries.

☐ **Spreads Through Italy and France**
The plague races through the Italian city-states and into France via trade routes, reaching Paris and spreading rapidly among the dense urban populations that had no immunity and no effective treatment.

☐ **Peak Death Toll**
The plague reaches its deadliest peak across central and northern Europe; in some cities, half the population dies within months; graves fill faster than they can be dug, and mass burials become common.

☐ **Flagellant Movement**
Groups of men called flagellants travel from town to town across Europe, publicly whipping themselves as penance, believing the plague is God's punishment for human sin.

1347 – 1353

Put the Events in Order: Answer Key

1347 — **1. Plague Ships Arrive in Sicily**

1348 — **2. Spreads Through Italy and France**

1348 — **3. Blame and Violence Against Jewish Communities**

1348–49 — **4. Spreads to England and Northern Europe**

1349 — **5. Peak Death Toll**

1349–51 — **6. Flagellant Movement**

1353 — **7. First Wave Ends**