

EUROPEAN HISTORY
SECTION II

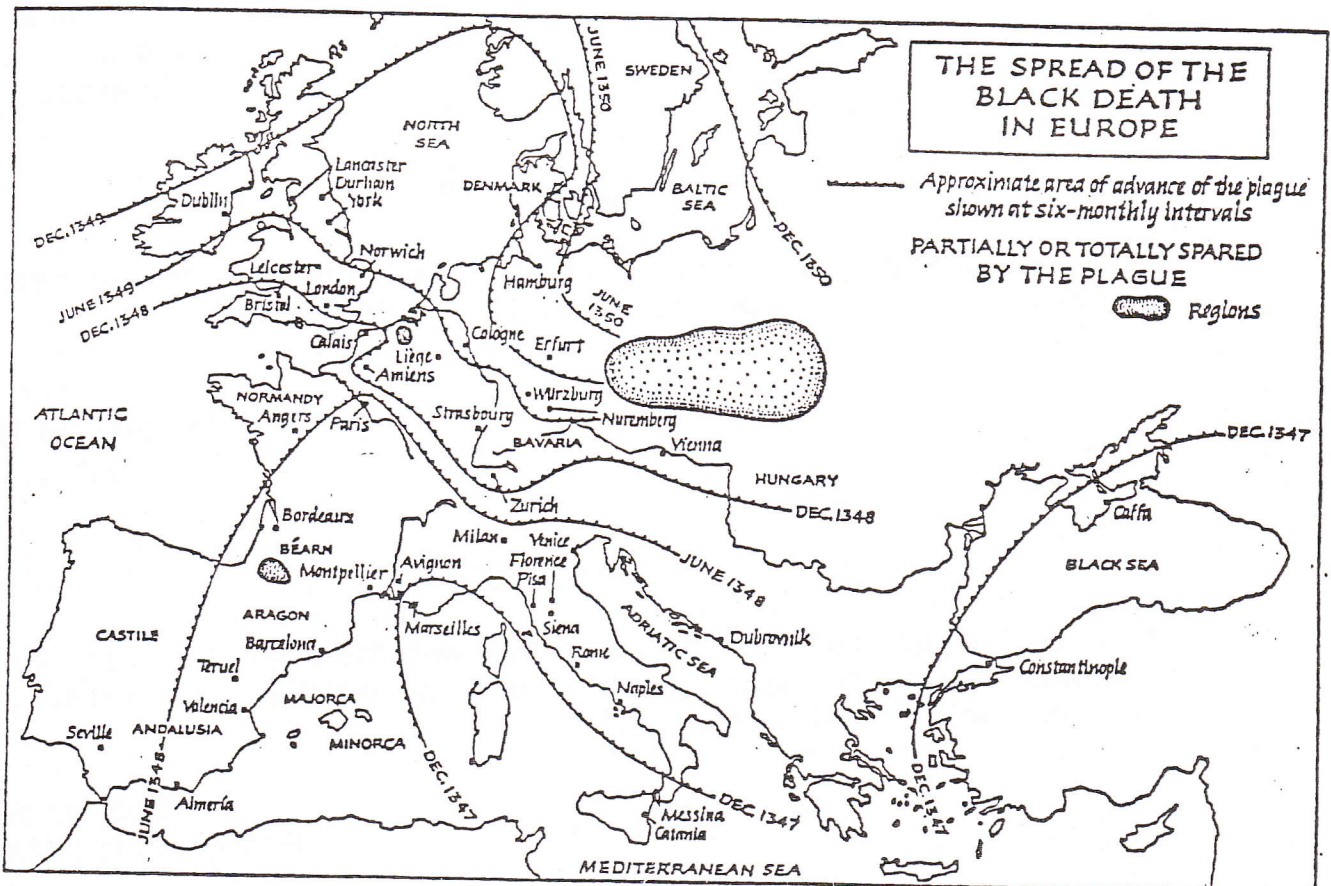
(Suggested Writing Time-45 minutes)
Percent of Section II score-45

Directions: The following question is based on the accompanying .12 Documents . (Some of the documents have been edited for the purpose of this exercise.) Write your answer on the lined pages of the pink essay booklet.

This question is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. As you analyze the documents, take into account both the sources of the documents and the authors' point of view.

1. Analyze the various explanations and responses for the outbreak of the plague.

Historical Background: The plague struck Europe in a series of waves beginning in 1348. It is estimated that the first wave killed about 25 million, or one-third of the population of Western Europe. Within a few days, about 80% of those infected died.



Document 1

"The plague must be considered a horrible punishment by an angry God over a sinful and offending people rather than a disease of natural causes."

Mileau Bertrand
Physician
Marseilles, France
1360

Document 2

"The villagers returned with red crosses painted on their chests from the slaughter. 'We killed them all,' they screamed, 'We killed all the Jews!' Their stories of the massacre were horrible: babies roasted alive on spits over fires, eyes and ears torn off, women raped and mutilated, men hacked to death with axes. The peoples' logic was clear: kill the Jews and kill the plague."

Pierre le Fleux
Historical Chronicler
Strasbourg, France
1349

Document 3

"The cause of the plague is clear. The *atra mors* is carried by some vicious property in the air. Those who breath the infectious air die. It is that simple."

Peter Nonwood
Professor of Theology
Oxford, England
1353

Document 4

"All Jews will be isolated in the *ghetto* and must wear the Star of David on their clothes to show us they are the plague carriers. The city will establish a *quarantine*, for those who wish to enter for twenty-one days."

Giussipo del Gado
Roman Catholic Magistrate
Venetia
1349

Document 5

"Gold, fire and the gallows: gold for the cost of the sick houses to *quarantine* the disease, the gallows to punish those who violate the health regulations and fire to destroy the flesh of the infected and their things."

Motto de Giovanni Filippo
Physician
Palermo, Sicily
1576

Document 6

"Any that touched the sick or their clothes seemed thereby to contract the disease."

Giovanni Boccaccio
poet
Florence
1313-1375

Document 7

"It is only just and right that these Jews, these people who rejected Christ and fornicate with the Satan are butchered. They are the ones that poisoned the wells of good Christians and they should be punished."

Pope Gregory XI
Rome
1377

Document 8

"The plague and sickness in England is due to the filth in the streets, and the urine and feces clogging all the city drains."

Gui de Vogue
Dutch Scholar
Rotterdam
1348

Document 9

"Plague-stricken patients hang toads around their necks, either dead or alive, whose venom should within a few days draw out the poison."

Henrée de Rochas
Physician
Lyon, France
1347

Document 10

"Are we not all God's children? 'It's the Jews fault!' the villagers all cry, but what does this mean? How can that be? The Jews are all dead from plague just like all the priests and nuns who have tried to help the sick. My peers in the Church are dying by the thousands. What are we to believe? Where is God?"

Father Dominique Carol
Priest
Bréssé, France
1348

Document 11

"Whatever house the disease visited was nailed up with the people locked within. Many died of starvation or thirst in their own homes and the highways were guarded so that a person could not pass from one place to another."

Heinrich von Staden
Traveler along the Rhine
1371

Document 12

"The plague was a blessing. There now is far less fornication, swearing and evil deeds done to women and children. Thank the Lord we are rid of the Jews! How glorious and just is our God who punishes the wicked and strikes down evil. The Lord truly works in strange ways."

David Eckberg
Roman Catholic Bishop
Köln am Rhine
1358