

Plague In Context Answer Key

1. **outbreaks**: sudden starts or increases of disease cases.
Clues: disease spread quickly; deadly illness appeared; patterns across outbreaks.
2. **observation**: careful watching or noticing information.
Clues: rely on observation rather than guesses; noticed patterns.
3. **quarantine**: keeping people or goods separated for a period to prevent disease spread.
Clues: required ships and travelers to wait outside the city for a set period.
4. **exposure**: being in contact with something that can cause harm, such as illness.
Clues: reduce exposure by separating those who might carry illness from healthy people.
5. **systematic**: done in an organized, planned, and consistent way.
Clues: practices became more systematic; records were kept; officials compared results.
6. **transmitted**: passed from one person to another.
Clues: symptoms appeared after contact; disease might be transmitted by something too small to see.

Precise Language Check

1. City leaders used quarantine to reduce **exposure** to illness.
2. Officials relied on superstition and rumor, but others used careful **observation** to guide decisions.

Teacher's Guide

- Using this worksheet
 - Preview the six target vocabulary words and ask students to predict meanings before reading.
 - During reading, have students underline context clues that help define each **bold** word.
 - After the second part, discuss how one wrong word can reverse meaning in informational text.