

Lesson 1***Student Handout 1.4***

Item # _____

Name _____

Date _____ Per _____

Dateline 14th Century

Compare the circumstances in Europe with those in the Mongol Empire and China in the fourteenth century.

Europe	Mongol Empire and China
<p>The Crusades, a 200-year-long series of wars between Christians and Muslims, have just ended. Muslim forces regained control of the “Holy Land,” but the Mongols then conquered the Abbasid-Seljuk Empire in 1258.</p> <p>One result of the Crusades is that Europeans have become much more interested in products from the East.</p> <p>Trade and travel between East and West increase.</p> <p>European doctors have little understanding of the causes of infectious disease.</p>	<p>The Mongols have conquered much of Eurasia, building an empire that stretches from China to the borders of Eastern Europe.</p> <p>The Mongols are dependent on trade. They encourage trade and travel throughout their empire. Roads and trade routes are maintained and protected.</p> <p>Many of the most highly valued trade goods are produced in China. This includes porcelain and silks.</p> <p>Bubonic plague breaks out in Central Asia and China.</p>

The circumstances described in the two boxes above resulted in a completely unexpected event that brought great change to Europe. Consider the circumstances carefully. Decide what this unexpected event might have been. Identify the event and explain your thinking on the lines below.
