Social Science Grades 9-12
Week of 4/13

Compelling Question: Do certain countries have a greater responsibility to address global issues than others?

Supporting Questions:

How do pandemics spread internationally?

What impact do pandemics have on society? What impact do they have on relations between groups of people?

In what ways must countries work together to stop the spread of pandemics?

Tasks:

1. **Flowchart:** Choose a pandemic in this set to focus on. Use the flowchart to track how the pandemic spread. Consider making two flowcharts, one for one of the historical examples (the Black Death, the 1918 Flu) and one for a modern example (H1N1, Coronavirus), and then compare the two flowcharts. Did the pandemics spread the same way? Did countries respond in similar ways?

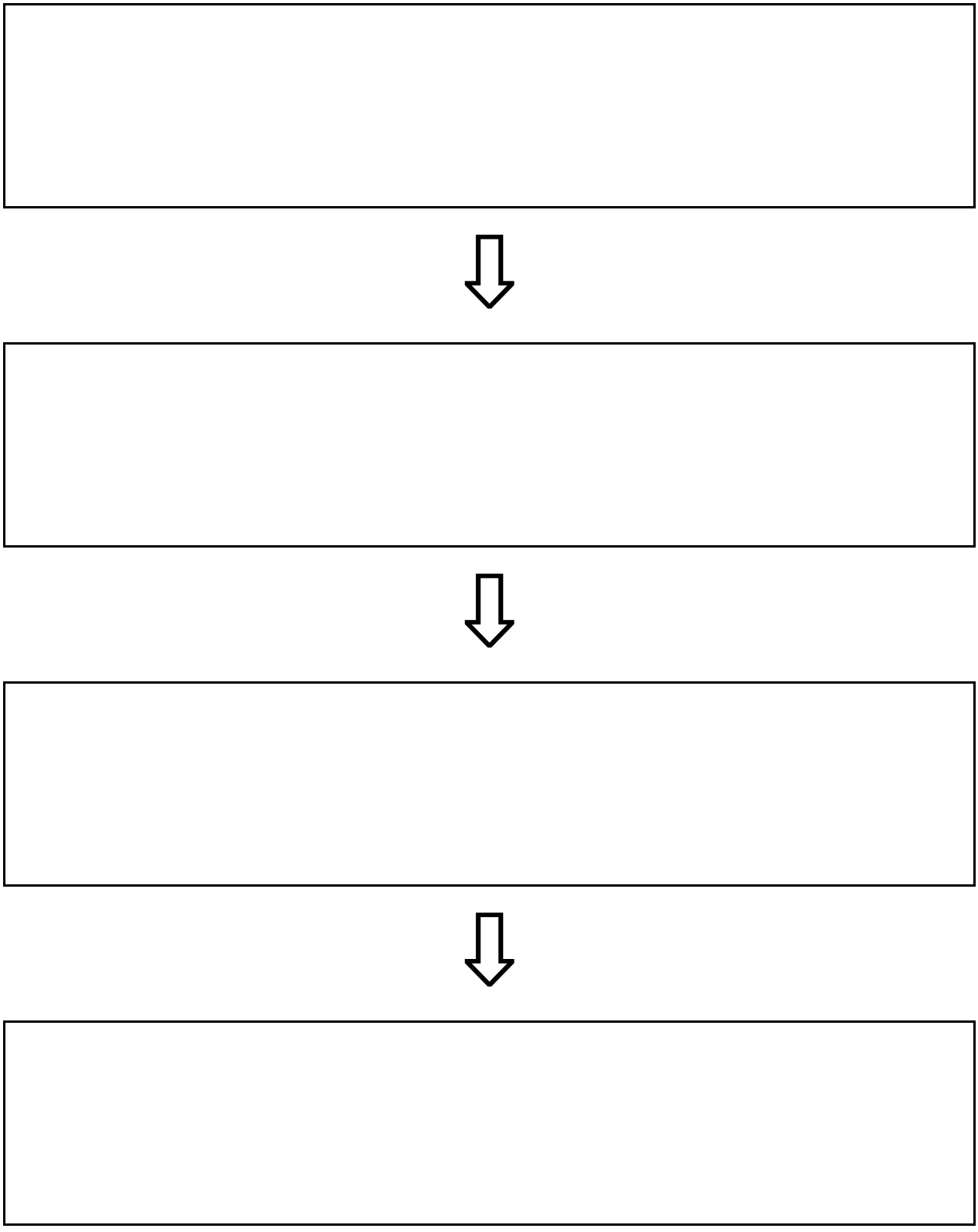
2. **Compare/Contrast Essay:** Choose one modern pandemic and one historical pandemic to compare and contrast. Compare how the diseases spread, how people responded to them, and how they impacted society, based on the sources. Use your flowcharts to help organize your ideas!

Extension: Complete at least one of the reading quizzes included with the readings.

Flowchart

Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____



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Primary Sources: The Black Death, 1348

By Henry Knighton, adapted by Newsela staff on 03.30.17
Word Count **975**
Level **1040L**

A miniature from a 14th century Belgium manuscript showing people burying the dead from the Black Death in Tournai, Belgium.

The Black Death was one of the worst plagues that spread death to many countries. From 75 million to 200 million people in Eurasia and Europe died in the years between 1346 and 1353. The Black Death is thought to have come from rats and started in the plains of Central Asia. It moved west along the Silk Road, maybe with Mongol troops, reaching Eastern Europe by 1343. Cargo ships bringing riches from the east also brought rats that had a bacteria, Yersina Pestis, in their blood. Fleas on the rats bit them and drank the blood filled with Yersinia Pestis. Fleas then jumped onto humans and bit them. The Yersinia Pestis began killing humans by attacking the lungs and turning them to liquid. A cough spread the bacteria to other humans. The bacteria could also stop the blood from clotting, causing victims to bleed to death. Touching the blood or body of a sick person also spread the Black Death, which got its name because many victims were covered with black boils. There were at least two kinds of plague: pnuemonic (lung) plague or bubonic (clotting) plague.

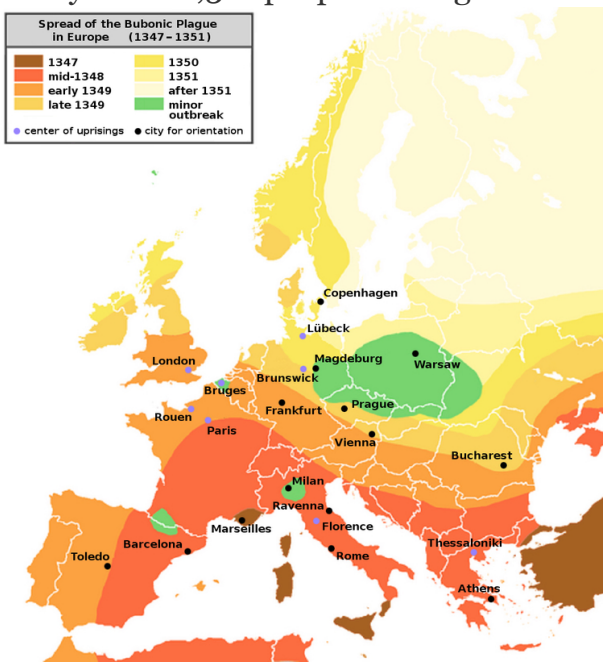
The Black Death arrived in Europe by sea in October 1347, when 12 trading ships docked in Sicily after a long journey through the Black Sea. Most of the sailors were dead and those that were still alive were very sick. The "death ships" were ordered out of the harbor, but it was too late,

and thousands in Sicily died. The expelled ships brought the disease to other ports in Italy and France. Over the next five years, the Black Death would kill almost half of the population of Europe, or 25 million people.

Henry Knighton, an Augustinian priest at St. Mary's of Leicester in England, wrote several books about the history of England. This piece is about the Black Death.

"48 Million People Died Suddenly"

In 1348 and 1349, many millions of people died throughout the world. It began first in India and moved west to Tarsus, Turkey, killing Muslims first and then Christians and Jews. The office of the pope believed that 48 million people died suddenly in those distant countries of Asia in the space of one year, from Easter to Easter. This did not include the death of Christians. When the king of Tarsus, a Muslim, saw this sudden loss of life among his people, he and his nobles set out to travel to the pope at Avignon, France. They wanted to become Christian and be baptized by the pope. The king believed that his people were being punished because they had not accepted Jesus Christ as the son of God. However, when he had completed 20 days of his journey, he heard that the fatal plague had killed many Christians, too. So they turned back to return to Tarsus. But Christians, who had been following the king and his people, attacked. They killed 1,312 people in Avignon the first day and 400 more on the second.



Then this most terrible plague came to the coast of England. It went through Southampton and came to Bristol. The cruel death took just two days to spread and almost the whole town was wiped out.

"The Scots Heard That The Plague Was Killing Their Enemy"

In the same year, a deadly sickness killed sheep throughout the country. In one place more than 5,000 sheep died in a single pasture. Their bodies were so decayed that no animal or bird would touch them. Because there was the fear of death, animals were sold at a low price. Sheep and cattle roamed through the fields eating the corn and no one stopped them.

The Scots heard that the plague was killing their enemy, the English. They felt God was punishing England. So they gathered in the forest of Selkirk, near the border, planning to invade England. However, the monstrous plague suddenly came upon them and within a short space of time around 5,000 died. They retreated to Scotland, but the English attacked and killed many of them.

"All Parties Feared The Spread Of The Plague"

At that time there were not enough priests in churches for masses, services, prayers for dying, or funerals. The plague moved through Dorset seaport, on to Devon, Somerset and up to Bristol. So the people of Gloucester stopped people escaping from Bristol. They feared the breath of those who had lived among the dying would spread the sickness. But in the end Gloucester, and then Oxford and London too, and finally the whole of England were so violently attacked that almost 90

percent of both men and women died. Cases in the courts of the king came to a stop, for all parties feared the spread of the plague. When the churchyards were not large enough to bury the dead, fields were used for the burials of the dead.

Hardly anyone dared to have anything to do with the sick. They fled from the things left by the dead, which had once been precious but were now poisonous to health. People who one day had been full of happiness on the next were found dead. Victims had little black boils scattered over their whole body. Of these people very few, indeed hardly any, recovered life and health. The plague, which began in Bristol on the feast of the Assumption of the Virgin [15 August] and in London around Michaelmas [29 September], raged for more than a year in England and completely emptied many villages.

ln the following year it laid waste to the Welsh and English in Wales, and then it moved to Ireland, where the English residents were cut down in great numbers. But the native Irish living in the mountains and uplands were scarcely touched until 1357, when it took them unawares and killed them, too.

Quiz

1 According to the map, what conclusion can be made about uprisings during the plague years?

(A) Uprisings took place in mostly northern Europe.

(B) Uprising took place across Europe.

(C) Uprisings took place only in the first year of the plague.

(D) Uprisings took place only in eastern Europe.

2 Which two selections from the article BEST support its CENTRAL ideas?

1. *When the king of Tarsus, a Muslim, saw this sudden loss of life among his people, he and his nobles set out to travel to the pope at Avignon, France. They wanted to become Christian and be baptized by the pope.*
2. *At that time there were not enough priests in churches for masses, services, prayers for dying, or funerals. The plague moved through Dorset seaport, on to Devon, Somerset and up to Bristol.*
3. *But in the end Gloucester, and then Oxford and London too, and finally the whole of England were so violently attacked that almost 90 percent of both men and women died.*
4. *Hardly anyone dared to have anything to do with the sick. They fled from the things left by the dead, which had once been precious but were now poisonous to health.*

(A) 1 and 2

(B) 2 and 3

(C) 3 and 4

(D) 1 and 4

3 What caused the king of Tarsus to seek help from Christians?

(A) He thought that Muslims and Christians should work together.

(B) He believed his people were being punished for not being Christian.

(C) He already had friendly relations with the pope.

(D) He wanted to convince them to become Muslim.

4 Which statement is an objective summary of the section "The Scots Heard That The Plague Was Killing Their Enemy"?

(A) Because they believed God was attacking their English enemy, the Scots foolishly planned to invade plague-stricken England.

(B) Because sickness attacked both animals and humans, some people believed that the English were being punished by God.

(C) Because sheep were also dying quickly where people had the plague, it should have been obvious that they had it too.

(D) Because the English and the Scots had been enemies for so long, they were able to overcome the plague to fight each other.

5 According to Knighton, what happened when the plague came to Bristol?

(A) The people of Bristol were able to resist the plague.

(B) People fled Bristol for Southampton.

(C) Almost the entire population was killed.

(D) People moved to hills outside the city.

6 Look at the map included with the article.

HOW does the map relate to a MAIN idea of the article?

(A) It shows the movement of the plague from one English city to another.

(B) It shows how the population of England was affected by the plague.

(C) It demonstrates how the plague spread over a great distance.

(D) It demonstrates the high percentage of the population killed by the plague.

7 Which of the following is the MOST reasonable conclusion based on details in the text?

(A) The plague did not actually affect how people lived their lives.

(B) The high death rates changed the daily lives of the survivors.

(C) The villages that were emptied were quickly repopulated.

(D) The deaths of animals promoted the farming of new crops.

8 Which conclusion is supported by BOTH the map and the article?

(A) The plague moved quickly west across Europe.

(B) The plague appeared to affect only coastal cities.

(C) Many millions of people died from the plague in 1348.

(D) Many people in Ireland did not get the plague until 1357.

The 1918 flu pandemic that killed millions

By History.com, adapted by Newsela staff on 12.18.17
Word Count **908**
Level **1020L**

Image 1. American Red Cross nurses tend to flu patients in temporary wards in Oakland, California, 1918. Photo by: Edward A. "Doc" Rogers. From the Joseph R. Knowland collection at the Oakland History Room, Oakland Public Library.

The influenza or flu pandemic of 1918 to 1919 was the deadliest in modern history. It infected an estimated 500 million people worldwide – about one-third of the planet's population at the time. It killed an estimated 20 million to 50 million victims. More than 25 percent of the U.S. population became sick, and some 675,000 died.

The 1918 flu was first observed in Europe, the United States, and parts of Asia before swiftly spreading around the world. Surprisingly, many victims were young, otherwise healthy adults. At the time, there were no effective drugs or vaccines to treat this killer flu strain or prevent its spread. In the U.S., citizens were ordered to wear masks. Schools, theaters and other public places were closed. Researchers later discovered what made the 1918 pandemic so deadly: The influenza virus invaded victims' lungs and caused pneumonia.

Flu facts

The flu is a virus that attacks the respiratory system. The primary organs of the respiratory system are the lungs. The virus is highly contagious. When an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks,

respiratory droplets are generated and transmitted into the air. Someone nearby who inhales these droplets can become infected. Even a person who touches something with the virus on it and then touches his or her mouth, eyes, or nose can become infected.

Flu outbreaks happen every year. How severe they are depend in part on the type of flu virus spreading. Usually about 200,000 Americans a year are hospitalized for flu-related complications. These include pneumonia, ear and sinus infections, and bronchitis. Over the last three decades, between 3,000 and 49,000 people a year have died because of the flu. Some people face a higher risk of getting sick, including young children, people over age 65, and pregnant women, as well as people with certain medical conditions, such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease. A flu pandemic, such as the one in 1918, occurs when an especially powerful new influenza strain appears and spreads to many people across a wide geographic area.

The flu strikes far and wide

The first wave of the 1918 pandemic occurred in the spring and was generally mild. The sick, who experienced typical symptoms as chills, fever, and fatigue, usually recovered after several days. Not many died. However, a second, highly contagious wave of influenza appeared in the fall of that same year. Victims died within hours or days of their symptoms appearing. Their skin turned blue and their lungs filled with fluid, causing them to suffocate.

It's unknown exactly where the 1918 flu virus came from. It became known as the "Spanish Flu" because Spain was one of the earliest countries to be hit hard by the disease.

One unusual aspect of the 1918 flu was that it affected so many young men and women who were otherwise healthy. This is a group that is not usually affected by the flu. In fact, according to journalist Gina Kolata, more U.S. soldiers died from the 1918 flu than died in battle during World War I (1914-1918).

Although the death toll of the 1918 flu is estimated at 20 million to 50 million victims worldwide, other estimates run as high as 100 million. The exact numbers are impossible to know due to a lack of medical record-keeping in many places.

Fighting the flu

When the 1918 flu hit, doctors and scientists didn't know what caused it or how to treat it. Unlike today, they had no effective vaccines or antiviral drugs.

World War I had left parts of America with fewer doctors and nurses than in the past. Many of them came down with the flu themselves. In some areas, hospitals were so crowded with flu patients that schools and private homes had to be converted into makeshift hospitals, staffed by medical students.

Officials in some communities quarantined the sick. They ordered citizens to wear masks and even banned spitting. They shut down public places, including schools, churches and theaters. People were advised to avoid shaking hands and to stay indoors.

The flu takes a heavy toll on society

The flu pandemic wiped out entire families.

It harmed every aspect of society, including the economy. In the U.S., businesses had to shut down because so many employees were sick. Basic services such as mail delivery and garbage collection were affected. In some places there weren't enough farm workers to harvest crops.

Flu pandemic finally ends

By the summer of 1919, the flu pandemic came to an end. Infected people had either developed immunity or died. Almost 90 years later, in 2008, researchers announced they'd discovered why the 1918 flu was so deadly. It was a group of three genes in the virus that weakened a victim's bronchial tubes and lungs. This made it easy for the flu victims to develop pneumonia. Pneumonia is a lung infection that inflames the lungs and air sacs, causing them to fill with fluid. Pneumonia can make you very sick.

Since 1918, there have been several other influenza pandemics, although none as deadly. One outbreak from 1968 to 1969 killed approximately 1 million people, including some 34,000 Americans. More than 12,000 Americans died during the H1N1 (or "swine flu") pandemic that occurred from 2009 to 2010.

Quiz

1 According to the article, which of the following MOST influenced the closing of schools and other public places?

(A) a fear of sick people dying in front of children

(B) a lack of healthy employees to maintain security in public places

(C) a decision to convert schools into makeshift hospitals

(D) a desire to stop the spread of the flu virus

2 HOW did the flu virus affect the U.S. military?

(A) The virus killed more soldiers than the number that died in World War I battles.

(B) The virus killed many soldiers, but less than the number that died during World War I battles.

(C) The virus caused much sickness but few deaths because soldiers were given a flu vaccine before they joined the military.

(D) The virus caused much sickness but few deaths because there were many doctors and nurses who helped sick soldiers get well.

3 What is the MAIN reason the author includes the first paragraph in the section "Flu Facts"?

(A) to explain why the virus attacks the lungs

(B) to compare different ways a person can catch the virus

(C) to explain why the virus is highly contagious

(D) to compare different parts of the body that the virus can infect

4 HOW does the section "The flu takes a heavy toll on society" help develop the CENTRAL idea of the article?

(A) It helps explain why so many people died from the flu pandemic.

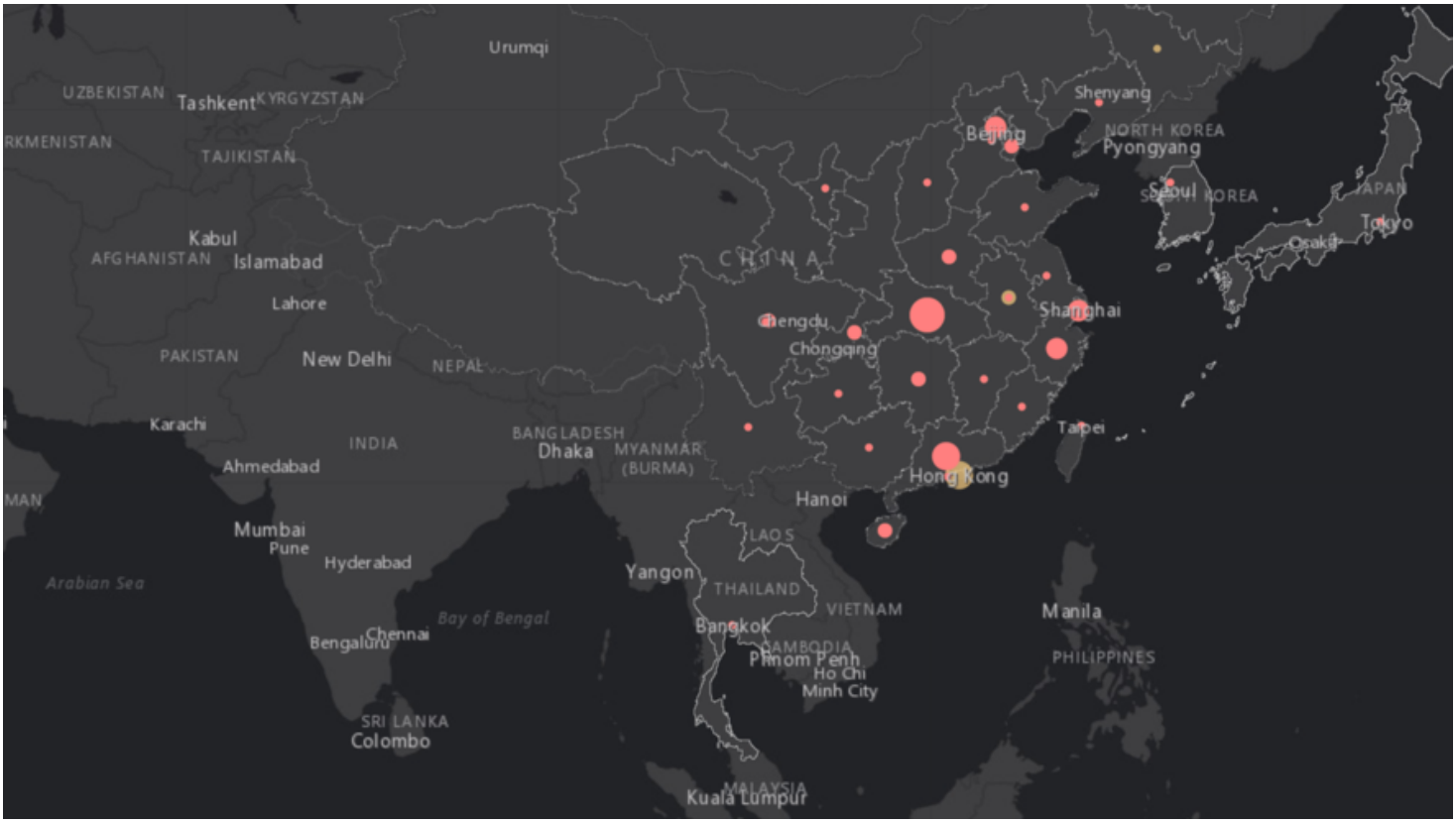
(B) It helps explain why the flu virus became a flu pandemic.

(C) It shows some extreme effects of the flu pandemic on families and businesses.

(D) It compares different parts of U.S. society that were affected by the flu pandemic at different rates.

Tracking the spread of coronavirus with a map

By PBS NewsHour, adapted by Newsela staff on 01.29.20
Word Count **703**
Level **1040L**



This map created by Johns Hopkins University's Center for Systems Science and Engineering on January 22 tracks the spread and location of the deadly novel coronavirus. Map: John Hopkins University Center for Systems Science and Engineering

A map created by U.S. researchers tracks the spread of a virus in China in real-time. The virus is a new strain in the coronavirus family of viruses. It has sickened almost 6,000 people and resulted in 132 deaths as of January 29. It is linked to an outbreak of pneumonia.

Global health officials are concerned about its potential to spread around the world. They are closely tracking the virus. Researchers at Johns Hopkins University's Center for Systems Science and Engineering launched the map that tracks the virus on January 22. The researchers suggest that the virus may be spreading faster than sources have reported.

A Map To Track The Virus

Lauren Gardner is a professor in civil and systems engineering at Johns Hopkins University. She led the team that produced the map tracking the virus.

"We think it is important for the public to have an understanding of the situation as it unfolds, with transparent data sources," Gardner said.

The map shows the official global number of people that have died from the virus. It also plots out a higher infection rate. It shows that the virus has made 555 people sick as of January 22.

Centered In Wuhan, China

The outbreak is centered in Wuhan, China, where the virus was traced back to a market that sold live animals. Outside of China, cases have been reported in the U.S., Taiwan, Thailand, South Korea and Japan, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported this week. The CDC is the primary public health institute in the United States.

The virus spreads through water droplets that spew into the air when an infected person sneezes or coughs. Those droplets spread the virus when they are inhaled through a person's nose or mouth or wiped into their eyes, according to Daniel Kuritzkes. Kuritzkes leads the branch of infectious diseases at a hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. The coronavirus is infectious because it can spread from person to person through the environment.

Gardner said the map is a very simple collection of reported cases gathered from local sources.

Making The Map

To make the map, Gardner and her team gathered and combed through local Chinese media reports. Those reports were then translated into English and their locations were mapped. As new reports come in, the map is updated, Gardner said.

Since there is much the public health community still does not know about novel coronavirus, she said it is hard to keep the map up to date. People may not know they are infected until they show symptoms. Another important thing to keep in mind is that novel coronavirus resembles the common flu. As a result, many people may not realize they have it.

"There's not a lot of other global cases reported yet," Gardner said. However, global cases will increase because people travel.

Lunar New Year: A Dangerous Time

The virus happened at a dangerous time. This week, millions of people are embarking on international travel, particularly in and out of East Asia, for Lunar New Year celebrations, which is the world's largest annual human migration.

In China, authorities have taken extreme measures to prevent further spread of the virus. They suspended train and airplane travel from Wuhan along with bus, subway and ferry travel, a Chinese news agency reported. These measures effectively quarantine the city, isolating it from the rest of China.

"Public transport and other mass gatherings should be avoided," said World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General Tedros Adhanom.

Two Cases In The U.S.

As of January 24, there were two reported cases of the coronavirus in the U.S. One person in Washington state has been infected with the virus after traveling to Wuhan. A woman in Chicago, Illinois, was also diagnosed with the virus after traveling back to the U.S. from Wuhan.

The CDC increased its travel warning to U.S. residents. Great Britain also issued an advisory against all, except essential travel to Wuhan. A travel advisory provides information to citizens about the safety of traveling to certain areas of the world.

As the outbreak spreads beyond China, Gardner said her team will rely on data from WHO and CDC to keep their map up to date.

Quiz

1 Which section from the article BEST explains why novel coronavirus might be difficult to detect?

(A) "A Map To Track The Virus"

(B) "Centered In Wuhan, China"

(C) "Making The Map"

(D) "Two Cases In The U.S."

2 Read the following paragraph from the section "Lunar New Year: A Dangerous Time."

> *The virus happened at a dangerous time. This week, millions of people are embarking on international travel, particularly in and out of East Asia, for Lunar New Year celebrations, which is the world's largest annual human migration.*

Which conclusion is BEST supported by the paragraph above?

(A) It is probable that many people traveling for Lunar New Year celebrations will unknowingly contract coronavirus.

(B) The Chinese government should not allow anyone to travel into or out of China until the novel coronavirus outbreak is fully contained.

(C) More people than usual will travel to places in East Asia other than China for Lunar New Year celebrations this year.

(D) It is irresponsible for people to travel to China for Lunar New Year during an active outbreak of novel coronavirus.

3 According to the article, WHY did Lauren Gardner's team develop their map of the novel coronavirus outbreak?

(A) to contradict official Chinese reports that the virus is under control and not a threat to international health

(B) to provide the public with the most reliable, up-to-date information about the spread of the virus

(C) to demonstrate how quickly novel coronavirus can spread through air travel

(D) to understand the environmental factors that contribute to the spread of novel coronavirus

4 How has the novel coronavirus outbreak affected the city of Wuhan?

(A) It has forced many people to flee the city and leave behind their things in order to avoid the virus.

(B) It has caused the city to cancel and prohibit all Lunar New Year gatherings and celebrations.

(C) It has infected or killed many residents and caused the government to quarantine the city.

(D) It has bankrupted most of the animal and meat vendors in the city due to fear of contamination.

WHO joins TikTok to share "reliable" information about coronavirus

By Dalvin Brown, USA Today on 03.10.20
Word Count **373**
Level **MAX**

Image 1. World Health Organization (WHO) logo displayed on a smartphone. Photo Illustration: Rafael Henrique/SOPA Images/LightRocket via Getty Images

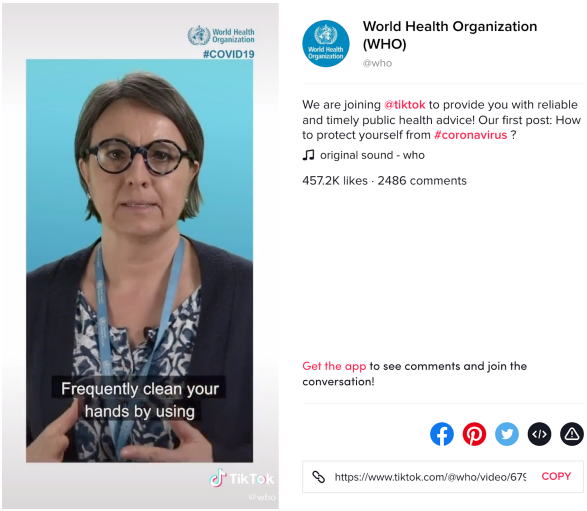
Social media is being flooded with misinformation about coronavirus, and the World Health Organization (WHO) joined TikTok on February 28 in an effort to stop some of it.

Since the outbreak began, people have shared false information through coronavirus-related memes on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and TikTok. Some of the online posts claim that vitamin C can "stop" the illness. Another says garlic will help.

Each of these ideas has been debunked. The United States has started human testing of a drug to treat the virus, but so far there isn't a cure, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

"We are joining @tiktok to provide you with reliable and timely public health advice! Our first post: How to protect yourself from #coronavirus," the public safety organization wrote in its first post on the platform.

In the video, Benedetta Allegranzi, the organization's technical lead of infection prevention and control, explained how people can slow down the spread of coronavirus. She also directs viewers to the organization's website for more resources and information.



Allegranzi tells viewers to wash their hands, cough and sneeze into their elbows and avoid close contact with sick people. WHO previously announced social media efforts to combat what it calls an "infodemic" or "an over-abundance of information ... that makes it hard for people to find trustworthy sources and reliable guidance when they need it."

The organization uploaded a second video over the weekend explaining how to properly wear a respiratory mask. The agency doesn't advise most people to go out and buy them.

"If you don't have respiratory symptoms, such as fever, cough, or runny nose, you don't need to wear a medical mask," WHO notes in the video.

It's been widely reported that medical masks are in short supply as the coronavirus spreads across the globe.

The coronavirus has killed at least 3,000 people across the world, mostly in China. There have been 11 reported deaths in the United States as of March 5, and over 100 confirmed cases, but experts predict a "boom" is on the way.