

**Student Comprehension Worksheet**

**Directions:** Read the online *Science News* article "[Black Death immunity came at a cost to modern-day health](#)" and answer the following questions. A version of the article, "Plague immunity left a lasting mark," appears in the November 19, 2022 issue of *Science News*.

- 1. What is bubonic plague? What germ causes this plague?**
- 2. What was the Black Death? How was it related to bubonic plague?**
- 3. What gene did researchers in the article study? In what bodily system does the gene play a role?**
- 4. What do the researchers claim about the gene and its relationship to the Black Death?**
- 5. What evidence do the researchers use to support their claim? Explain how the researchers gathered their evidence.**
- 6. Why did the frequency of the gene variant increase after the Black Death?**
- 7. What implications does the gene variant have for modern-day health?**
- 8. What broader hypothesis does the new finding support?**