

Exercise walk-through

Contextualizing State Building ■ 3.1

eXercise

You must be able to

- name the pressures that pushed rulers to strengthen the state
- explain why war drove administrative change
- state the two models the century produced
- avoid narrating reigns instead of naming conditions

Method — The pressures

Prolonged warfare, religious division within realms, fiscal shortfall, and revolt. Each pushed rulers toward more reliable revenue and more direct control.

Method — War and administration

Larger and longer wars required money on a scale that occasional grants could not supply. Permanent taxation required permanent administration, and permanent administration is what distinguishes the century's states from their predecessors.

Method — Two models

One route concentrated authority in the crown; another distributed it between crown and representative institutions. The century produced both, in neighbouring realms, from similar pressures.

Practice 2.1 ■ 3 marks

Name three pressures that pushed rulers to strengthen the state.

Solution 2.1

Method: The pressures

Worked steps

any three of: prolonged warfare; religious division within realms; fiscal shortfall; revolt **B3**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Explain why war produced permanent administration.

Solution 2.2

Method: War and administration

Worked steps

longer wars needed money beyond what occasional grants supplied **B1**, and permanent taxation required a permanent apparatus to assess and collect it **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 1 mark

Two neighbouring realms respond to similar pressures differently.

- (a) State what this shows.
- (b) State what an explanation must therefore include.

Solution 2.3

Method: Two models

Worked steps

(a) that the pressures did not determine the outcome **B1**. (b) the local factors — institutions, alliances, the balance between crown and elites — that decided which route was taken **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

Permanent taxation required

- A** occasional grants
- B** permanent administration
- C** fewer officials
- D** no records

Solution 3.1

Method: War and administration

- A occasional grants
- B permanent administration** 
- C fewer officials
- D no records

Worked steps

- B. a standing revenue needs a standing apparatus.**

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

That similar pressures produced different outcomes shows

- A** the pressures were imaginary
- B** other factors determined which route was taken
- C** the outcomes were identical
- D** war was irrelevant

Solution 3.2

Method: Two models

- A the pressures were imaginary
- B other factors determined which route was taken** 
- C the outcomes were identical
- D war was irrelevant

Worked steps

- B. the same input with different outputs implies further variables.**

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A context paragraph lists four pressures and stops.

- (a) State what is missing.
- (b) Explain why it matters.

Solution 3.3

Worked steps

(a) what each pressure made possible or necessary **B1**. (b) a condition explains nothing until its consequence is stated **B1**, which is the purpose of a context paragraph **B1**.