

Exercise walk-through

The Dutch Golden Age ■ 3.5

eXercise

You must be able to

- name the sources of Dutch commercial advantage
- explain the role of the republic's political form
- describe the relationship between toleration and commerce
- explain why the ascendancy did not last

Method — The advantages

Shipping efficiency and low freight costs, a dominant entrepôt trade, financial institutions including a public bank and an exchange, and access to capital at low interest.

Method — Political form

A federal republic dominated by merchant elites made policy that served commerce directly, and its decentralisation limited the state's ability to burden trade for dynastic ends.

Method — Toleration and commerce

Relative religious toleration attracted skilled and capitalised refugees, and made the republic a place where people could transact without confessional test. Commerce and toleration reinforced each other.

Method — Why it ended

Larger neighbours with greater populations and fiscal-military capacity out-built and out-fought the republic, and protective legislation abroad closed markets it had carried.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

Name two sources of Dutch commercial advantage.

Solution 2.1

Worked steps

any two of: shipping efficiency and low freight costs; entrepôt trade; financial institutions; cheap capital **B2**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Explain how toleration and commerce reinforced each other.

Solution 2.2

Method: Toleration and commerce

Worked steps

toleration attracted skilled and capitalised refugees **B1**, and a place where people could transact without confessional test drew trade **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 1 mark

The republic's ascendancy declines in the eighteenth century.

- (a) State one reason.
- (b) State one structural disadvantage.

Solution 2.3

Worked steps

(a) larger neighbours with greater fiscal-military capacity out-built and out-fought it **B1**. (b) a small population and territory relative to its rivals **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

A federal republic dominated by merchants tends to produce policy that

- A** ignores commerce
- B** serves commerce directly
- C** favours dynastic war
- D** raises freight costs

Solution 3.1

Method: Political form

- A ignores commerce
- B serves commerce directly**
- C favours dynastic war
- D raises freight costs



Worked steps

- B. the policymakers were the merchants.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

Relative toleration benefited the Dutch economy mainly by

- A** reducing shipping costs
- B** attracting skilled and capitalised refugees
- C** creating a monarchy
- D** closing markets

Solution 3.2

Method: Toleration and commerce

- A reducing shipping costs
- B attracting skilled and capitalised refugees** 
- C creating a monarchy
- D closing markets

Worked steps

- B. skills and capital arrived with the refugees.**

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

Neighbouring states pass laws requiring goods to travel in their own ships.

- (a) State the effect on Dutch carriage.
- (b) Explain why this hurt the republic particularly.

Solution 3.3

Worked steps

(a) it is excluded from carrying those goods **B1**. (b) carriage was the republic's central advantage **B1**, so legislation aimed at it struck the basis of the economy rather than one sector **B1**.