

Exercise walk-through

Continuity and Change in 18th-Century States ■ 5.9

eXercise

You must be able to

- name a change and a continuity in sovereignty, commerce and thought
- explain why naming a continuity strengthens an answer
- state what the period settled and what it did not
- avoid describing only rupture

Method — Sovereignty

Change: a rival claim that sovereignty belongs to a nation. **Continuity:** monarchy persisted almost everywhere, now answerable to a claim it had not faced before.

Method — Commerce

Change: Britain ends the period holding most of the network, with financial institutions built to fight wars. **Continuity:** the network itself survived twenty-five years of war.

Method — Thought

Change: Enlightenment principles reached statute and constitution. **Continuity:** reason acquired a serious critic in the same decades, so the argument continued rather than concluding.

Method — Why continuity matters

Change without continuity reads as rupture; both together read as history. The continuity is also evidence that the change was real, since it shows what resisted.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

State one change and one continuity in sovereignty.

Solution 2.1

Method: Sovereignty

Worked steps

change: a rival claim that sovereignty belongs to a nation **B1**; continuity: monarchy persisted **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Explain why naming a continuity strengthens an answer.

Solution 2.2

Worked steps

it shows what resisted the change **B1**, which makes the change measurable rather than asserted **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 1 mark

By 1815 monarchy persists across Europe.

- (a) State what has changed about it.
- (b) State what has not.

Solution 2.3

Worked steps

(a) it now faces a claim that sovereignty belongs to the nation **B1**. (b) the institution itself, which survived the period **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

Which is a continuity across 1648-1815?

- A** The commercial network survived the wars
- B** Sovereignty acquired a rival claimant
- C** Enlightenment principles reached statute
- D** Romanticism emerged

Solution 3.1

A The commercial network survived the wars



B Sovereignty acquired a rival claimant

C Enlightenment principles reached statute

D Romanticism emerged

Worked steps

A. the network was redistributed, not destroyed.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

Change without continuity reads as

- A** history
- B** rupture
- C** comparison
- D** causation

Solution 3.2

Method: Why continuity matters

A history

B rupture



C comparison

D causation

Worked steps

B. only both together read as history.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 4 marks

Write a continuity-and-change paragraph on European thought, 1648-1815.

Solution 3.3

Method: Thought

Worked steps

a change named with evidence **B1**; a continuity named with evidence **B1**; the two connected **B1**; a judgment about which mattered more **B1**.