

2.1 Contextualizing 16th- and 17th-Century Challenges and Developments

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

KEY WORDS context 语境

Objective

Build the skills to write the **context** 语境 for the Reformation era.

You must be able to:

- name the conditions that made religious challenge possible
- explain how printing and vernacular literacy contributed
- state the political interests that shaped religious change
- avoid narrating the Reformation instead of contextualising it

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Conditions for challenge

Existing criticism of church practice, a scholarly method for checking texts against sources, a technology for spreading arguments, and rulers with reasons to support a challenge to church authority.

■ Printing and literacy

Vernacular printing made a religious argument readable outside the clergy. That changed who could take part in a dispute that had previously been conducted in Latin among specialists.

■ Political interest

A ruler who broke with Rome gained control of church appointments and church wealth. Recording that interest is not cynicism; it is part of why some challenges survived and others did not.

2 Practice

2.1 Name three conditions that made religious challenge possible. [3]

2.2 Explain how vernacular printing changed a religious dispute. [2]

2.3 A ruler supports a religious reformer.

(a) State one political interest served. [1]

(b) State why recording it is not cynicism. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Before vernacular printing, theological dispute was conducted mainly [1]

- **A** in public assemblies
- **B** in Latin among specialists
- **C** by royal decree
- **D** in vernacular pamphlets

3.2 A ruler breaking with Rome gained control of [1]

- **A** the papacy
- **B** church appointments and wealth in his realm
- **C** all European trade
- **D** printing presses everywhere

3.3 A student's context paragraph narrates Luther's actions in order.

(a) State the fault. [1]

(b) Explain what should replace it.

[2]

Solutions

2.1 any three of: existing criticism of church practice; a scholarly method for checking texts; printing; rulers with reasons to support a challenge.

2.2 it made the argument readable outside the clergy, so laypeople could take part in a dispute previously confined to Latin specialists.

2.3 (a) control of church appointments and church wealth in his realm. (b) it explains why some challenges survived and others did not, which a purely religious account cannot.

3.1 B. Latin confined the dispute to the trained.

3.2 B. appointments and wealth passed to the crown.

3.3 (a) it narrates events rather than naming conditions. (b) the conditions in place beforehand, each with a statement of what it made possible.