Exercise walk-through

Challenges to Sovereignty ▪ 4.9

eXercise

You must be able to

- define a **supranational organization 超国家组织**
- give an example (UN, EU) and its purpose
- explain how supranationalism can limit sovereignty
- explain how devolution challenges sovereignty from within

Method — Supranational organizations

A **supranational organization** is an alliance of states pooling some power for shared goals — trade, security, or cooperation (e.g. the UN, the EU).

Method — Limiting sovereignty from above

Joining such a body means accepting shared rules, so a state gives up some **sovereignty** in exchange for benefits like open trade or collective security.

Method — Challenges from within

Devolution and separatist movements challenge sovereignty from below, as regions seek to take power from the central state.

Practice 2.1 ▪ 2 marks

Define a supranational organization and give one example.

Solution 2.1

Method: Supranational organizations

Worked steps

an alliance of states pooling power for common goals **B1**; e.g. the UN or the EU **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ▪ 2 marks

Explain how joining a supranational body can reduce a state's sovereignty.

Solution 2.2

Method: Limiting sovereignty from above

Worked steps

the state must follow shared rules/decisions **B1**; it gives up some independent control in return for benefits **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ▪ 1 mark

A state faces a strong regional independence movement and also belongs to a trade union of states.
(a) Name the challenge to sovereignty from below.
(b) Name the challenge from above.

Solution 2.3

Worked steps

(a) devolution / separatism B1. (b) supranationalism B1.

Exam-style 3.1 ▪ 1 mark

The United Nations is best described as a

- **A** unitary state
- **B** supranational organization
- **C** stateless nation
- **D** relict boundary

Solution 3.1

A unitary state

B supranational organization ✓

C stateless nation

D relict boundary

Worked steps

B. a body of many states cooperating = supranational organization.

Exam-style 3.2 ▪ 1 mark

A country accepting a trade bloc's shared regulations has traded some sovereignty for

- **A** isolation
- **B** economic benefits
- **C** a relict boundary
- **D** higher fertility

Solution 3.2

Method: Limiting sovereignty from above

A isolation

B economic benefits ✓

C a relict boundary

D higher fertility

Worked steps

B. states pool sovereignty to gain trade/economic benefits.

Exam-style 3.3 ▪ 1 mark

A trade bloc sets rules its members must all follow.

(a) Explain one benefit a member gains.

(b) Explain one cost to its sovereignty.

Solution 3.3

Method: Limiting sovereignty from above

Worked steps

(a) access to a large open market / shared security **B1**. (b) it must follow common rules it did not set alone **B1**.