

3.3 Cultural Patterns

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 10 marks

KEY WORDS centripetal 向心 • centrifugal 离心 • ethnic religion 民族宗教 • universalizing religion 普世宗教
• cultural region 文化区

Objective

Build the skills to answer exam questions on **cultural patterns** 文化格局 of language, religion, and ethnicity.

You must be able to:

- distinguish a **universalizing religion** 普世宗教 from an **ethnic religion** 民族宗教
- explain how language and religion pattern space
- define **cultural region** 文化区
- distinguish **centripetal** 向心 from **centrifugal** 离心 cultural forces

1 Worked examples

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

■ Universalizing vs ethnic religions

A **universalizing religion** seeks all converts and spreads widely (Christianity, Islam, Buddhism). An **ethnic religion** ties to one people and place (Hinduism, Judaism) and spreads mainly by birth.

■ Cultural regions

Shared language, religion, or ethnicity create **cultural regions** — areas with a common identity, which can be formal, functional, or perceptual.

■ Centripetal and centrifugal forces

Centripetal cultural forces unify a group (a shared language, national identity). **Centrifugal** forces divide it (deep language or religious splits).

2 Practice

2.1 State the difference between a universalizing and an ethnic religion. [2]

2.2 Define a centripetal cultural force and give one example. [2]

2.3 A country has two large groups speaking different languages who distrust each other.

(a) Name the type of cultural force at work. [1]

(b) State one policy that could create a centripetal force instead. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A religion that actively seeks converts from all peoples is [1]

- **A** an ethnic religion
- **B** a universalizing religion
- **C** a cultural landscape
- **D** a relict boundary

3.2 A shared national language that binds a diverse country together is a [1]

- **A** centrifugal force
- **B** centripetal force
- **C** push factor
- **D** type of diffusion

3.3 Two regions of a state follow different religions and increasingly want to separate.

(a) Which type of cultural force is this? [1]

(b) Explain how it threatens the state. [1]

Solutions

2.1 universalizing seeks converts worldwide; ethnic ties to one people/place and spreads mainly by birth.

2.2 a force that unifies a population/state; e.g. a shared language, religion, or national identity.

2.3 (a) centrifugal (dividing) force. (b) an official shared language, inclusive national symbols/education.

3.1 B. seeking universal converts = universalizing religion.

3.2 B. a unifying shared language is a centripetal force.

3.3 (a) centrifugal force. (b) it divides loyalty and can lead to conflict or demands to break away.