

Exercise walk-through

Comparison in Period 2 ■ 2.8

eXercise

You must be able to

- state what a comparison must contain
- name a similarity across the British regions
- name a difference and its basis
- avoid describing regions instead of comparing them

Method — What it contains

A similarity, a difference, and a stated basis of comparison. Two descriptions side by side are not a comparison.

Method — A similarity

All the British colonies participated in the Atlantic slave trade to varying degrees, all developed self-governing institutions unusually democratic for the era, and all experienced gradual Anglicization.

Method — A difference

The labour system and its scale — few enslaved labourers on New England farms, large numbers on Chesapeake and southern Atlantic plantations, with enslaved people often a majority in the southernmost colonies. The basis of comparison is the region's economy and the labour it required.

Method — Not description

The comparison is the sentence naming the basis and saying how the regions stand on it. Everything before that is evidence.

Practice 2.1 ■ 3 marks

State the three things a comparison must contain.

Solution 2.1

Worked steps

a similarity **B1**; a difference **B1**; a stated basis of comparison **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Name a similarity across the British colonial regions.

Solution 2.2

Method: A similarity

Worked steps

any one of: participation in the Atlantic slave trade to varying degrees; self-governing institutions unusually democratic for the era; gradual Anglicization **B2**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 1 mark

Compare two regions on labour.

- (a) State the basis of comparison.
- (b) State how two regions stand on it.

Solution 2.3

Method: Not description

Worked steps

(a) the region's economy and the labour it required **B1**. (b) New England's small farms used relatively few enslaved labourers **B1**; the southern Atlantic plantations depended on enslaved Africans who often formed the majority **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

Two descriptions side by side are

- A** a comparison
- B** not yet a comparison
- C** a causation claim
- D** a continuity argument

Solution 3.1

Method: What it contains

A a comparison

B not yet a comparison 

C a causation claim

D a continuity argument

Worked steps

B. the comparative sentence is missing.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

A similarity across all the British colonies is

- A** participation in the Atlantic slave trade to varying degrees
- B** identical economies
- C** no self-government
- D** identical religions

Solution 3.2

Method: A similarity

A participation in the Atlantic slave trade to varying degrees



B identical economies

C no self-government

D identical religions

Worked steps

A. all participated to varying degrees.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 4 marks

Write a comparison of New England and the southern Atlantic colonies.

Solution 3.3

Method: A difference

Worked steps

the basis stated (B1); a similarity with evidence (B1); a difference with evidence (B1); a sentence relating the two rather than describing each in turn (B1).