

Exercise walk-through

The Development of an American Culture ■ 4.9

eXercise

You must be able to

- state the three elements the new culture combined
- name the two influences on literature and the arts
- explain what 'human perfectibility' contributed
- connect this subtopic to the reform movements

Method — Three elements

A new national culture emerged that combined American elements, European influences, and regional cultural sensibilities. The regional element is in the definition of the national culture.

Method — Two influences

Liberal social ideas from abroad and Romantic beliefs in human perfectibility influenced literature, art, philosophy, and architecture.

Method — Perfectibility

If people can be improved, then institutions that fail them can be reformed. The belief supplies the premise the reform movements of 4.11 argue from.

Method — The connection

4.9 and 4.11 are the same intellectual development seen twice: once as culture and once as politics. An answer that keeps them apart misses why the reform movements arose when they did.

Practice 2.1 ■ 3 marks

State the three elements the new culture combined.

Solution 2.1

Method: Three elements

Worked steps

American elements **B1**; European influences **B1**; regional cultural sensibilities **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Name the two influences on literature and the arts.

Solution 2.2

Method: Two influences

Worked steps

liberal social ideas from abroad **B1**; Romantic beliefs in human perfectibility **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 2 marks

Perfectibility connects to reform.

- (a) Explain the connection.
- (b) State what an answer keeping 4.9 and 4.11 apart misses.

Solution 2.3

Method: The connection

Worked steps

(a) if people can be improved, institutions that fail them can be reformed **B1**, which is the premise the reform movements argue from **B1**. (b) why the reform movements arose when they did **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

The new national culture combined American elements, European influences and

A regional cultural sensibilities

B foreign languages only

C nothing else

D military traditions

Solution 3.1

Method: Three elements

A regional cultural sensibilities



B foreign languages only

C nothing else

D military traditions

Worked steps

A. regional sensibilities.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

Romantic beliefs concerned

A human perfectibility

B hereditary rank

C trade policy

D judicial review

Solution 3.2

Method: Two influences

A human perfectibility



B hereditary rank

C trade policy

D judicial review

Worked steps

A. human perfectibility.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A society believes people can be improved.

- (a) State what follows for its institutions.
- (b) Explain why this produces reform movements.

Solution 3.3

Method: Perfectibility

Worked steps

(a) that they can be judged by whether they improve people **B1**. (b) an institution that does not improve people now stands accused **B1**, and improving it becomes a project people can organise around **B1**.