

2.4 Transatlantic Trade

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

KEY WORDS atlantic economy 大西洋经济 • conflict 冲突

Objective

Build the skills to explain the **Atlantic economy** 大西洋经济.

You must be able to:

- state what was exchanged in the Atlantic economy
- state what colonial economies focused on
- state the two effects of trade on American Indian communities
- explain why imperial policy was erratically enforced

1 Worked examples

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

■ The exchange

An Atlantic economy developed in which goods, as well as enslaved Africans and American Indians, were exchanged between Europe, Africa, and the Americas through extensive trade networks. The CED names enslaved American Indians as well as Africans.

■ Colonial focus

Acquiring, producing, and exporting commodities that were valued in Europe and gaining new sources of labor. The labour is part of the economic aim, not a consequence of it.

■ Two effects on native communities

Continuing trade increased the flow of goods in and out of American Indian communities, stimulating cultural and economic changes and spreading epidemic diseases that caused radical demographic shifts.

■ Erratic enforcement

The British government increasingly attempted to incorporate its North American colonies into a coherent, hierarchical, and imperial structure in order to pursue mercantilist economic aims, but conflicts with colonists and American Indians led to erratic enforcement of imperial policies. The

intention was systematic; the practice was not.

2 Practice

2.1 State what was exchanged in the Atlantic economy. [2]

2.2 State the two effects of trade on American Indian communities. [2]

2.3 Imperial policy was erratically enforced.

(a) State what Britain intended. [2]

(b) State what prevented it. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Colonial economies focused on exporting commodities valued in Europe and on [1]

- **A** gaining new sources of labor
- **B** reducing population
- **C** ending trade
- **D** importing manufactures only

3.2 Erratic enforcement resulted from conflicts with [1]

- **A** colonists and American Indians
- **B** France only
- **C** Spain only
- **D** nobody

3.3 A government announces a trade policy and does not consistently enforce it.

(a) State what colonists learn. [1]

(b) Explain the consequence for later enforcement. [2]

Solutions

2.1 goods, as well as enslaved Africans and American Indians, between Europe, Africa and the Americas.

2.2 stimulating cultural and economic changes; spreading epidemic diseases that caused radical demographic shifts.

2.3 (a) to incorporate the colonies into a coherent, hierarchical, imperial structure in pursuit of mercantilist economic aims. (b) conflicts with colonists and American Indians.

3.1 A. new sources of labor.

3.2 A. colonists and American Indians.

3.3 (a) that the rule is negotiable in practice. (b) later strict enforcement is experienced as a change in the relationship rather than as the application of an existing rule.