

4.14 Causation in Period 4

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 13 marks

KEY WORDS causation 因果

Objective

Build the skills to explain **causation** 因果 in period 4.

You must be able to:

- state what a causation question asks
- name a cause and an effect from the period's key concepts
- distinguish a cause from a condition
- rank causes against a stated criterion

1 Worked examples

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

■ The question

A causation question asks why something happened, which requires naming a cause and showing the connection — not narrating what followed.

■ A chain from the CED

Innovations in technology and commerce (KC-4.2) → an accelerated economy → profound changes to society and to national **and regional** identities → the divergence period 5 turns into a crisis.

■ Cause and condition

A **condition** makes something possible; a **cause** brings it about. Abundant western land was a condition for the expansion of slavery; overcultivation in the Southeast was a cause of the particular relocation the CED describes.

■ Ranking

Where more than one cause is available, name a criterion — necessity, proximity, scale — and rank against it. The CED's own qualifiers (“often”, “for some”, “largely”) are the material for limiting a judgment.

2 Practice

2.1 State what a causation question asks for. [2]

2.2 Distinguish a cause from a condition with an example. [2]

2.3 Causes can be ranked.

(a) Name two criteria. [2]

(b) State what the CED's qualifiers supply. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A causation answer must show [1]

- **A** the connection between cause and outcome
- **B** the sequence of events only
- **C** the date
- **D** the sources

3.2 Abundant western land is best described as [1]

- **A** a condition
- **B** a cause
- **C** an effect
- **D** a compromise

3.3 Write a paragraph explaining one cause of the divergence between North and South

by 1848.

[4]

Solutions

2.1 why something happened, naming a cause and showing the connection rather than narrating what followed.

2.2 a condition makes something possible and a cause brings it about; e.g. western land was a condition for slavery's expansion while overcultivation caused the particular relocation.

2.3 (a) any two of: necessity; proximity; scale. (b) the material for limiting a judgment.

3.1 A. the connection.

3.2 A. a condition.

3.3 a cause named; evidence from the period; the connection to the outcome explained; the claim limited rather than absolute.