

Exercise walk-through

Cultural Consequences of Connectivity ■ 2.5

eXercise

You must be able to

- name the four kinds of thing the CED says diffused
- state the CED's claim about the fate of cities
- explain what travel writing is evidence of
- state why 'varied greatly' resists a single story

Method — Four diffusions

Increased cross-cultural interactions resulted in the diffusion of **literary, artistic and cultural traditions, as well as scientific and technological innovations**. Two aesthetic, one broad, one technical.

Method — Cities

The fate of cities **varied greatly**, with periods of significant decline and periods of increased urbanisation, **buoyed by rising productivity and expanding trade networks**. Decline and growth in the same claim.

Method — Travel writing

As exchange networks intensified, **an increasing number of travellers within Afro-Eurasia wrote about their travels**. The writing is both a consequence of connection and the evidence historians use for it.

Method — 'Varied greatly'

The CED declines a single trajectory for cities. An answer saying urbanisation simply rose has replaced a careful claim with a simpler one.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

Name the four kinds of thing that diffused.

Solution 2.1

Worked steps

literary traditions; artistic traditions; cultural traditions; scientific and technological innovations **B2**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

State the CED's claim about the fate of cities.

Solution 2.2

Method: Cities

Worked steps

their fate varied greatly **B1**, with periods of decline and periods of increased urbanisation buoyed by productivity and trade **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 2 marks

Travellers wrote about their journeys.

- (a) State the two things this writing is.
- (b) State what “varied greatly” refuses.

Solution 2.3

Method: Travel writing

Worked steps

(a) a consequence of connection **B1** and evidence of it **B1**. (b) a single trajectory for cities across the period **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

Urbanisation in this period is described as

- A** steadily rising
- B** varying greatly, with decline and growth
- C** steadily falling
- D** unchanged

Solution 3.1

- A steadily rising
- B varying greatly, with decline and growth** 
- C steadily falling
- D unchanged

Worked steps

- B. the CED's own phrase.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

Rising urbanisation is attributed to productivity and

A expanding trade networks

B military conquest

C falling population

D religious revival

Solution 3.2

Method: Cities

A expanding trade networks



B military conquest

C falling population

D religious revival

Worked steps

A. trade networks, alongside productivity.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A traveller's account survives from the fourteenth century.

- (a) State what its existence indicates.
- (b) Explain the historian's double use of it.

Solution 3.3

Worked steps

(a) that travel across long distances was possible and worth recording **B1**. (b) as evidence of what the traveller saw **B1** and as evidence that such travel was becoming more common **B1**.