

Past-paper walk-through

Technological Innovations from 1450 to 1750 ■ 4.1

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2025 Set 2 Q3
- 2023 Set 2 Q3

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 3

2025 Set 2 ■ Q3

Respond to parts A, B, and C.

- (a)** Identify one development that contributed to the spread of gunpowder technologies in the period before circa 1500.
- (b)** Explain one way the use of military technologies affected the development of land-based empires in the period circa 1450 to 1750.
- (c)** Explain one way navigational technologies contributed to economic change in the period circa 1450 to 1750.

Solution 3

(a)

Mark scheme

- Identify one development that contributed to the spread of gunpowder technologies in the period before circa 1500. (1 point) — accept any: The Mongol conquests contributed to the spread of gunpowder technologies.; Warfare between states led to the spread of gunpowder technologies.; Some states employed foreign military specialists who could train their forces in how to use new types of cannons and other gunpowder weapons.; Gunpowder technologies spread along trade routes, such as the Silk Road and the Indian Ocean.

Solution 3

(b) Mark scheme

- Explain one way the use of military technologies affected the development of land-based empires in the period circa 1450 to 1750. (1 point) — accept any: Muslim empires such as the Ottomans and Mughals used armed trade and gunpowder to expand their territories by conquering weaker neighboring states.; Some European states were able to create overseas empires by using cannons and other gunpowder weapons against the technologically less developed societies they encountered.; Many states were able to use gunpowder weapons to eliminate or reduce challenges to their authority from the nobility, for example by building or expanding their professional armies.

Solution 3

(c)

Mark scheme

- Explain one way navigational technologies contributed to economic change in the period circa 1450 to 1750. (1 point) — accept any: Improved compass designs enabled Europeans to sail to the Americas, eventually creating the Atlantic system of trade.; Knowledge of seasonal monsoon winds allowed European states to establish trading-post empires in the Indian Ocean.; Improved astrolabes and better mapmaking techniques facilitated European exploration of the African coast, which led them to set up trading posts on the continent.

Question 3

2023 Set 2 ■ Q3

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Identify ONE technological development that contributed to Europeans' ability to spread religious ideas in the Americas during the period 1450–1750.
- (b)** Explain ONE way that religion contributed to the process of state expansion and/or exploration in the Americas during the period 1450–1750.
- (c)** Explain ONE reason why syncretic belief systems developed in the Americas during the period 1450–1750.

Solution 3

(a)

Mark scheme

- Identify ONE technological development that contributed to Europeans' ability to spread religious ideas in the Americas during the period 1450 to 1750. (1 point) — accept any: The development of new ships, such as the caravel, contributed to Europeans' ability to spread religious ideas in the Americas during the period 1450 to 1750.; The printing press is a technological development that helped spread European religious ideas.; Improved cartography and transoceanic travel contributed to Europeans' ability to spread religious ideas in the Americas.

Solution 3

(b)

Mark scheme

- Explain ONE way that religion contributed to the process of state expansion and/or exploration in the Americas during the period 1450 to 1750. (1 point)
— accept any: European missionaries often supported colonialism in order to spread Christianity.; Spanish monarchs and conquistadors used religion to justify their colonization of the Americas.; The creation of new religious orders, such as the Jesuits, contributed to Catholic attempts to control and enforce religious orthodoxy in Spanish and Portuguese colonies in the Americas.

Solution 3

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain ONE reason why syncretic belief systems developed in the Americas during the period 1450 to 1750. (1 point) — accept any: Indigenous American peoples often created new syncretic religious traditions by incorporating some of their own religious beliefs and practices with Christianity.; The forced mixing of different African peoples led to the blending of religious practices and the creation of new religious traditions based on traditional African religious practices, as well as the blending of African religious traditions with Christianity.; Ethnic and racial intermixing of various groups in the Americas created diverse colonial populations whose culture (including inherited religious traditions) combined elements of both Christian and pre-Christian religions.