

Exercise walk-through

Causation in the Imperial Age ■ 6.8

eXercise

You must be able to

- state what 'relative significance' asks for
- name three effects of imperialism from different key concepts
- state a criterion for ranking effects
- avoid listing effects without ranking them

Method — The question

“Explain the **relative significance** of the effects of imperialism” asks you to rank, not to list. A ranking needs a stated criterion.

Method — Three effects

Economic (KC-5.2): export economies and economic imperialism reorganised whole economies. **Demographic** (KC-5.4): migration patterns changed dramatically and migrant numbers increased significantly. **Political** (KC-5.3): anticolonial movements and new nation-states.

Method — A criterion

Choose one and say so: duration, number of people affected, or irreversibility. The same three effects rank differently under each — which is why naming the criterion is the analytical move.

Method — The common error

Writing four paragraphs of effects and never saying which mattered most. The ranking sentence is what answers the question.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

State what “relative significance” asks for.

Solution 2.1

Method: The question

Worked steps

a ranking of effects **B1** against a stated criterion, not a list **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 3 marks

Name three effects of imperialism of different kinds.

Solution 2.2

Method: Three effects

Worked steps

economic — export economies and economic imperialism **B1**; demographic — dramatically changed migration patterns **B1**; political — anticolonial movements and new nation-states **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 2 marks

A ranking needs a criterion.

- (a) Name two possible criteria.
- (b) State why naming one is the analytical move.

Solution 2.3

Method: A criterion

Worked steps

(a) any two of: duration; number of people affected; irreversibility **B2**. (b) the same effects rank differently under different criteria **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

A relative-significance answer must

- A** list effects
- B** rank them against a stated criterion
- C** describe causes
- D** define terms

Solution 3.1

Method: The question

- A list effects
- B rank them against a stated criterion**
- C describe causes
- D define terms



Worked steps

- B. ranking against a criterion.**

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

KC-5.4 concerns

- A** migration patterns
- B** industrial capitalism
- C** revolutions
- D** overseas empires

Solution 3.2

A migration patterns



B industrial capitalism

C revolutions

D overseas empires

Worked steps

A. migration.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 4 marks

Write a paragraph ranking two effects of imperialism against a stated criterion.

Solution 3.3

Method: The question

Worked steps

the criterion stated **B1**; two effects with evidence **B1**; a ranking of the two **B1**;
the ranking justified by the criterion rather than asserted **B1**.