

Exercise walk-through

Technological Advances: Debates About the Environment After 1900 ■ 9.3

eXercise

You must be able to

- name the four environmental effects of human activity
- state what intensified as a result
- state the CED's careful wording about climate change
- explain why the CED describes a debate

Method — Four effects

Human activity contributed to **deforestation, desertification, a decline in air quality, and increased consumption of the world's supply of fresh water.**

Method — Intensified competition

Humans competed over these and other resources more intensely than ever before. Environmental change becomes political through scarcity.

Method — Climate change

The release of greenhouse gases and pollutants into the atmosphere contributed to debates about the nature and causes of climate change. The CED reports the debate, and reproducing that wording is what accuracy requires here.

Method — Why a debate

The CED's subject in this clause is the public argument — what was disputed, by whom and on what grounds — which is a historical question distinct from the scientific one.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

Name the four environmental effects of human activity.

Solution 2.1

Method: Four effects

Worked steps

deforestation; desertification; a decline in air quality; increased consumption of fresh water **B2**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

State what intensified and why.

Solution 2.2

Worked steps

competition over these and other resources **B1**, which became more intense than ever before because of scarcity **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 2 marks

The CED reports a debate.

- (a) State what the debates were about.
- (b) State why a debate is a historical subject.

Solution 2.3

Method: Climate change

Worked steps

(a) the nature and causes of climate change **B2**. (b) what was disputed, by whom and on what grounds is itself a historical question **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

Increased consumption concerned the world's supply of

A fresh water

B coal

C iron

D timber only

Solution 3.1

Method: Four effects

A fresh water



B coal

C iron

D timber only

Worked steps

A. fresh water.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

Competition over resources became

- A** less intense
- B** more intense than ever before
- C** unchanged
- D** impossible

Solution 3.2

Method: Intensified competition

- A less intense
- B more intense than ever before
- C unchanged
- D impossible



Worked steps

- B. the CED's own phrase.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

Two groups disagree publicly about an environmental question.

- (a) State what a historian records.
- (b) Explain the difference from a scientific account.

Solution 3.3

Method: Why a debate

Worked steps

(a) who argued what, when and with what effect **B1**. (b) a scientific account asks which claim is true **B1**, while the historical account asks how the argument proceeded and what it changed **B1**.