

1.4 State Building in the Americas

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 11 marks

KEY WORDS comparison 比较

Objective

Build the skills to explain **state building in the Americas** 美洲.

You must be able to:

- state the CED's comparative claim about the Americas
- explain the force of 'as in Afro-Eurasia'
- state what 'expanded in scope and reach' means
- avoid treating the Americas as an exception

1 Worked examples

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

■ The claim

In the Americas, **as in Afro-Eurasia**, state systems demonstrated continuity, innovation and diversity, **and expanded in scope and reach**.

■ 'As in Afro-Eurasia'

The CED writes the comparison into the sentence. The Americas are not an exception to the unit's pattern; they are an instance of it, developing independently of Afro-Eurasia.

■ Scope and reach

Scope is what the state does — the range of functions it performs. **Reach** is how far it does it. A state can grow in one without the other.

■ Not an exception

Because these states developed with no contact with Afro-Eurasia, the shared pattern is evidence about state formation generally, not about diffusion.

2 Practice

2.1 State the CED’s comparative claim about the Americas. [2]

2.2 Distinguish scope from reach. [2]

2.3 American states developed independently of Afro-Eurasia.

(a) State what the shared pattern is therefore evidence about. [1]

(b) State what it is not evidence of. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 “As in Afro-Eurasia” makes the Americas [1]

- **A** an exception to the pattern
- **B** an instance of it
- **C** irrelevant
- **D** the origin of it

3.2 “Reach” refers to [1]

- **A** the functions a state performs
- **B** how far it performs them
- **C** its population
- **D** its religion

3.3 A state adds tribute collection to an area it already governs.

(a) State whether this is scope or reach. [1]

(b) Explain the difference with an example of the other.

[2]

Solutions

2.1 state systems demonstrated continuity, innovation and diversity and expanded in scope and reach, as in Afro-Eurasia.

2.2 scope is the range of functions the state performs; reach is how far it performs them.

2.3 (a) about state formation generally. (b) of diffusion or contact between the hemispheres.

3.1 B. the comparison is written into the sentence.

3.2 B. reach is distance and extent.

3.3 (a) scope. (b) reach would be extending existing tribute collection to new territory, so the two can grow separately.