

2.5 Cultural Consequences of Connectivity

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

KEY WORDS diffusion 传播 • travellers 旅行者 • cultural effects 文化影响

Objective

Build the skills to explain the **cultural effects** 文化影响 of exchange.

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

1 Worked examples

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

■ 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.

■ 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.

■ 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.

■ '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.

2 Practice

2.1 Name the four kinds of thing that diffused. [2]

2.2 State the CED's claim about the fate of cities. [2]

2.3 Travellers wrote about their journeys.

(a) State the two things this writing is. [2]

(b) State what “varied greatly” refuses. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Urbanisation in this period is described as [1]

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

3.2 Rising urbanisation is attributed to productivity and [1]

- **A** expanding trade networks
- **B** military conquest
- **C** falling population
- **D** religious revival

3.3 A traveller's account survives from the fourteenth century.

(a) State what its existence indicates. [1]

(b) Explain the historian's double use of it.

[2]

Solutions

2.1 literary traditions; artistic traditions; cultural traditions; scientific and technological innovations.

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

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

3.1 B. the CED's own phrase.

3.2 A. trade networks, alongside productivity.

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