

4.4 Maritime Empires Established

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 13 marks

KEY WORDS rivalries 对抗 • maritime empires 海上帝国 • plantation economy 种植园经济

Objective

Build the skills to explain **maritime empires** 海上帝国 and labour systems.

You must be able to:

- state what drove European maritime empire-building
- explain the two Asian responses the CED records
- name the African states whose influence grew
- name the labour systems in the American colonies

1 Worked examples

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

■ The drivers

Driven largely by **political, religious and economic rivalries**, European states established new maritime empires, including the Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, French and British. The competition is between Europeans as much as with anyone else.

■ Two Asian responses

Some Asian states sought to **limit the disruptive economic and cultural effects** of European-dominated long-distance trade by adopting **restrictive or isolationist trade policies**; meanwhile existing Indian Ocean networks **continued to flourish**, including intra-Asian trade and Asian merchants.

■ African states

The expansion of maritime trading networks **fostered the growth of states in Africa, including the Asante and the Kingdom of the Kongo**, whose participation in trading networks led to an increase in their influence.

■ Labour

Colonial economies largely depended on agriculture, **utilised existing labour systems including the Incan mit'a**, and **introduced new systems including chattel slavery, indentured servitude, and encomienda and hacienda systems**. Enslavement in Africa also continued in its traditional forms, while the plantation

economy increased demand for enslaved labour in the Americas, leading to significant demographic, social and cultural changes.

2 Practice

2.1 State what drove European maritime empire-building. [2]

2.2 State the two Asian responses the CED records. [2]

2.3 Colonial economies used old and new labour systems.

(a) Name the existing system the CED gives. [1]

(b) Name three new systems. [3]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The African states whose influence grew include [1]

- **A** the Asante and the Kingdom of the Kongo
- **B** the Mughals
- **C** the Safavids
- **D** the Manchu

3.2 Existing Indian Ocean networks are described as [1]

- **A** destroyed
- **B** continuing to flourish
- **C** European-owned
- **D** abandoned

3.3 A state adopts restrictive trade policies to limit foreign influence.

(a) State what the CED says it was trying to limit. [1]

(b) Explain why this is evidence of agency rather than weakness. [2]

Solutions

2.1 political, religious and economic rivalries between European states.

2.2 some states adopted restrictive or isolationist trade policies to limit disruption; existing Indian Ocean networks continued to flourish with intra-Asian trade and Asian merchants.

2.3 (a) the Incan mit'a. (b) any three of: chattel slavery; indentured servitude; encomienda; hacienda.

3.1 A. both are named.

3.2 B. the CED says they continued to flourish.

3.3 (a) the disruptive economic and cultural effects of European-dominated long-distance trade. (b) the state assessed the effects and chose a policy, which is a decision rather than a failure to resist.