

Exercise walk-through

2.4

Wars of Religion

AP European History

Four ways a state could answer religious division

Four answers: restore unity by force, exploit the conflict, permit pluralism, or reform from the top down.

Four ways a state could answer religious division, in detail

One problem - religious division - and the four answers the CED names

Restore unity by force	Exploit the conflict	Permit pluralism	Reform from the top down
Habsburg attempts to restore Catholic unity in Europe	states back a confession to advance their own interests	France: the Edict of Nantes	Henry VIII and Elizabeth I lead reform themselves
<i>fails - and an expanded Ottoman Empire at the same time</i>	<i>prolongs the war; settles no doctrine</i>	<i>buys domestic peace - a political tool, not a creed</i>	<i>the crown gains control of the church in its realm</i>

Westphalia (1648) ends the attempt to restore a single Christendom, and the sovereign state system takes its place.

Only one of these ends the conflict, and it is not the one most rulers tried first

Wars of Religion

The CED gives four state responses to religious division, and a strong answer treats them as a set:

- **Restore unity by force** – Habsburg rulers attempted to restore **Catholic unity** across Europe and failed, while simultaneously confronting an **expanded Ottoman Empire**.
- **Exploit the conflict** – states used religious disputes to **promote political and economic interests** rather than to settle doctrine.

Wars of Religion: the other two responses

- **Permit pluralism** – a few states, such as France with the **Edict of Nantes**, allowed religious pluralism **in order to maintain domestic peace**.
- **Reform from the top down** – monarchs, including **Henry VIII** and **Elizabeth I**, initiated religious reform themselves to strengthen control over the church within their realm.

Wars of Religion, continued

Religious reform also **exacerbated conflicts between monarchy and nobility**, as in the French wars of religion – religion supplied the language, and existing political rivalry supplied the force.

The settlement matters
as much as the wars: the

Peace of Westphalia (1648)

marked the effective end of
the medieval ideal of **universal
Christendom**
and accelerated the decline of
the Holy Roman Empire.

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 Explain how religious division supplied a means of recruiting support. [2]

2.2 State the clearest evidence that religion was not the only motive. [2]

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 Explain how religious division supplied a means of recruiting support. [2]

2.1

- co-religionists across borders shared a grievance, so support could be recruited beyond a ruler's own territory
-

2.2 State the clearest evidence that religion was not the only motive. [2]

2.2

- alliances that crossed confessional lines, which cannot be explained by religion alone

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 A treaty fixes which confession prevails in each territory.

(a) State what the settlement conceded.

[1]

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 A treaty fixes which confession prevails in each territory.

(a) State what the settlement conceded.

[1]

(a)

- that Europe would not be religiously united

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 A treaty fixes which confession prevails in each territory.

(b) State what it achieved.

[1]

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 A treaty fixes which confession prevails in each territory.

(b) State what it achieved.

[1]

(b)

- it ended the fighting by making the division territorial rather than contested

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 An alliance between rulers of different confessions indicates that

[1]

☐

A religion was the only motive

B dynastic or territorial interest also operated

C the war had ended

D neither ruler was sincere

3.2 The settlement of the religious wars solved them by

[1]

☐

A imposing one confession everywhere

B conceding the division and fixing it territorially

C abolishing religion

D returning to 1500

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 An alliance between rulers of different confessions indicates that

[1]

☐

- A religion was the only motive
- B dynastic or territorial interest also operated
- C the war had ended
- D neither ruler was sincere

3.1 B

- cross-confessional alliance requires another motive

3.2 The settlement of the religious wars solved them by

[1]

☐

- A imposing one confession everywhere
- B conceding the division and fixing it territorially
- C abolishing religion
- D returning to 1500

3.2 B

- the division was fixed rather than resolved

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 A student explains the wars entirely by doctrine.

(a) State one thing the account cannot explain.

[1]

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 A student explains the wars entirely by doctrine.

(a) State one thing the account cannot explain.

[1]

(a)

- alliances and conflicts that cut across confessional lines

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 A student explains the wars entirely by doctrine.

(b) Explain what should be added.

[2]

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 A student explains the wars entirely by doctrine.

(b) Explain what should be added.

[2]

(b)

- dynastic and territorial interests, which operated alongside confession throughout