

7 Nationalism and the reordering of states – Part 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Vocabulary

Write each word three times.

English

Write it 3 times (English)

Nationalism

Recall

- You know a border can be drawn where no one speaks the same language.
- You have seen a shared story used to unite people.
- You know a state can create a nation as well as express one.

New ideas

Read these first. Each idea has a short worked example. Then do the Practice below.

■ 1 What nationalism claims

Nationalism claims that a people sharing language, culture or history should govern themselves. It is a claim about who the state belongs to.

Worked example. The same claim can unify fragmented regions and can break up a multi-national empire.

■ 2 Two directions

Nationalism unified some states and dismembered others. Whether it built or broke depended on whether the existing state matched the national claim.

Worked example. In a fragmented region it unifies; in a multi-national empire it separates.

■ 3 Making a nation

States promoted national identity through schooling, conscription, standard languages and official histories. A nation is partly produced by the state that claims to represent it.

Worked example. A school system teaching one language creates the shared culture it says already existed.

Watch out: Nationalism is not simply the expression of an existing nation. Much of what it claimed to find had to be built by schools, armies and histories.

Practice

2.1 State what nationalism claims. [2]

2.2 Explain why nationalism unified some states and broke others. [2]

2.3 Name three means by which states built national identity. [3]

2.4 Explain how a school system creates the culture it describes. [2]

2.5 State why nationalism is not simply an expression of an existing nation. [1]
