

Exercise walk-through

New Monarchies ■ 1.5

eXercise

You must be able to

- state what a new monarchy attempted to centralise
- name the instruments rulers used
- explain the limits on centralisation
- avoid describing centralisation as complete

Method — What was centralised

Taxation, justice, and armed force. A ruler who could tax without negotiating, judge without local lords, and field troops without borrowing them had a different kind of power.

Method — The instruments

Professional officials paid by the crown, standing or semi-permanent armies, and marriage alliances that added territory without war.

Method — The limits

Nobles retained land, local privileges and courts; representative bodies retained rights over taxation in many realms. Centralisation was a direction of travel, not an achieved condition.

Practice 2.1 ■ 3 marks

Name three things new monarchies sought to centralise.

Solution 2.1

Worked steps

taxation **B1**; justice **B1**; armed force **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Name two instruments rulers used.

Solution 2.2

Worked steps

any two of: professional officials paid by the crown; standing or semi-permanent armies; marriage alliances **B2**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 1 mark

A student writes that new monarchs “had absolute control by 1500”.

- (a) State why this is inaccurate.
- (b) State a more accurate formulation.

Solution 2.3

Worked steps

(a) nobles kept land, privileges and courts, and representative bodies retained rights over taxation **B1**. (b) a formulation describing centralisation as a direction of travel rather than an achieved condition **B2**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

A professional official paid by the crown rather than a local lord increases royal power because

- A** he is cheaper
- B** his loyalty runs to the crown
- C** he is a noble
- D** he cannot be dismissed

Solution 3.1

Method: The instruments

- A he is cheaper
- B his loyalty runs to the crown
- C he is a noble
- D he cannot be dismissed



Worked steps

B. paid by the crown, he owes his position to it.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

A marriage alliance adds territory

- A** only after a war
- B** without the cost of conquest
- C** by papal decree only
- D** temporarily in all cases

Solution 3.2

Method: The instruments

- A only after a war
- B without the cost of conquest**
- C by papal decree only
- D temporarily in all cases



Worked steps

- B. inheritance transfers territory without conquest.**

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A ruler must summon a representative body to raise a tax.

- (a) State what this shows about centralisation.
- (b) Explain how a ruler might reduce the constraint.

Solution 3.3

Method: The limits

Worked steps

(a) that royal power over taxation was still limited **B1**. (b) build revenue sources that do not require consent, such as customs or crown lands **B1**, which reduces the need to summon the body at all **B1**.