

Past-paper walk-through

Economic Development and Mercantilism ■ 3.4

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2025 Set 1 Q3
- 2024 Set 1 Q3
- 2023 Set 2 Q1

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 3

2025 Set 1 ■ Q3

Respond to parts A, B, and C.

- (a)** Describe one significant motivation for European overseas expansion in the period 1450 to 1600.
- (b)** Describe one significant change in European overseas expansion in the period 1600 to 1700.
- (c)** Explain one way that European overseas expansion affected Europe's economy in the period 1700 to 1900.

Solution 3

(a)

Mark scheme

- Describe one significant motivation for European overseas expansion in the period 1450 to 1600. (1 point) — accept any: European overseas expansion was often motivated by the desire to spread Christianity, especially in Catholic Spain and Portugal.; Europeans wanted to find commodities like precious metals and spices.; Competition between the Portuguese and the Spanish motivated both nations to colonize other lands.

Solution 3

(b) Mark scheme

- Describe one significant change in European overseas expansion in the period 1600 to 1700. (1 point) — accept any: In the 1600s, powers like England, France, and the Netherlands became more active in colonization.; Spanish and Portuguese dominance began to decline in the 1600s.; Principles of mercantilism encouraged European states to extract as much wealth from colonies as possible.; The risks and complexity of long-distance trade led to the creation of more sophisticated financial institutions such as joint-stock companies.; There was an increased reliance on slavery in the transatlantic or triangular trade.

Solution 3

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain one way that European overseas expansion affected Europe's economy in the period 1700 to 1900. (1 point) — accept any: Overseas expansion, global trade, and colonial settlement increased the wealth of the European commercial classes because it opened new markets for their goods.; The European economy benefitted from the raw materials exported from the colonies because they were essential to industrial production.; As industrialization expanded across Europe, foreign countries began to provide new markets for European manufactured goods, encouraging competition between European states for imperial territory.

Question 3

2024 Set 1 ■ Q3

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Describe one similarity between Portuguese and Spanish overseas expansion in the period 1450 to 1650.
- (b)** Describe one difference between Portuguese and Spanish overseas expansion in the period 1450 to 1650.
- (c)** Explain one reason why the rise of new colonial powers such as England, France, and the Dutch Republic led to conflicts in the 1600s and 1700s.

Solution 3

(a) Mark scheme

- Describe one similarity between Portuguese and Spanish overseas expansion in the period 1450 to 1650. (1 point) — accept any: Both countries sought overseas sources of valuable luxury goods, such as gold and spices.; Both countries made use of advances in military and maritime technology to support their exploration and conquest.; Both countries' colonization efforts were centrally directed under control of the monarchy.; Both countries spread Catholicism through the Jesuits and other religious orders [Portugal in Japan and China, Spain in the Americas].; Both countries used systemic forms of violence to establish and maintain their power overseas.; Both countries exploited the natural and human resources in their respective overseas colonies to enrich themselves.; Both countries voluntarily

Solution 3

and involuntarily introduced new diseases, flora, fauna, and goods in their respective overseas colonies.

Solution 3

(b) Mark scheme

- Describe one difference between Portuguese and Spanish overseas expansion in the period 1450 to 1650. (1 point) — accept any: Spain became a great power in Europe, while Portugal did not become a great European power.; Portugal's empire was mainly in Africa, India, and East Asia; Spain's empire was mostly in the Americas.; Portugal's empire consisted mostly of coastal enclaves and trading posts; Spain conquered large areas of the interior of the Americas and established expansive colonies.; Spain placed much greater emphasis on forcing its overseas subjects to convert to Catholicism.; Spain conquered large empires in the Americas, such as the Inca and Aztec, while Portugal did not.

Solution 3

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain one reason why the rise of new Atlantic powers such as England, France, and the Netherlands led to conflicts in the 1600s and 1700s. (1 point) — accept any: Religious divisions between Catholic and Protestant countries in Europe started to spill over into conflicts in their respective overseas colonies.; The desire for access to luxury goods from overseas lands led to competition between the various European states.; The wars of Louis XIV resulted in a coalition of powers assembling against him, and this conflict spilled into the colonies.; Britain and the Netherlands took over large parts of Asia that had previously been under Portuguese control.; The wealth of established Portuguese and Spanish colonies encouraged the newer powers to try to take or plunder them.; Newer European

Solution 3

powers resisted Spanish attempts to maintain a monopoly on colonization and trade in large areas of the world.; The rise of mercantilist beliefs heightened competition for markets and resources.; European countries sought to conquer new overseas territories in order to establish a balance of power in Europe.

Question 1

2023 Set 2 ■ Q1

“Prior to the seventeenth century, the most celebrated European city was one famous for its past. Visitors made pilgrimages to Rome to tour its ancient monuments or its historic churches: they were seeking artistic inspiration and indulgences rather than novelty and excitement. Then, in the seventeenth century, a new model for urban space and urban life was invented, a blueprint for all great cities to come. The modern city as it came to be defined was designed to hold a visitor’s attention with quite different splendors: contemporary residential architecture and unprecedented urban infrastructure rather than grand palaces and churches. And this remade the urban experience for both the city’s inhabitants and its visitors alike. The modern city was oriented to the future rather than the past: speed and movement were its hallmarks. And as many Europeans quickly recognized, only one city was truly modern: Paris. Visitors who wanted to contemplate ancient monuments still went to Rome, but those

Question 1

in search of the novel and the cutting edge—in the arts and architecture, in technology and commerce, in fashion, and in cuisine—were traveling to Paris to discover a very different experience. . . . They spent less time in churches and more in cafés and public gardens, less time touring cemeteries and more visiting shops. They wanted to eat well and to be well outfitted as much as to tour a famous cathedral.” Source: Joan DeJean, historian, *How Paris Became Paris: The Invention of the Modern City*, 2014
Using the excerpt, respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Describe one argument made in the passage.
- (b)** Explain how a piece of evidence from the passage supports one of the author’s claims.
- (c)** Explain how one development during the late 1600s and the 1700s shaped the changes described in the passage.

Solution 1

(a)

Mark scheme

- Describe one argument made in the passage. (1 point) — accept any: People began visiting cities such as Paris to see new fashions, cultural trends, etc.; Paris was the first modern European city.; Changes in the seventeenth century altered the urban experience.; Visitors/travelers became more interested in the new (Paris) rather than the old (Rome).; Motivations for travel became more secular and focused on consumption.; Rome was old/ancient city that people visited for inspiration and/or history.

Solution 1

(b)

Mark scheme

- Explain how a piece of evidence from the passage supports one of the author's claims. (1 point) — accept any: Discussion of ancient monuments in Rome vs. new architecture in Paris illustrates the shift in reasons for traveling to cities.; New cafes and public gardens were constructed to appeal to travelers and encourage consumption.; Public gardens and shops were increasingly appealing to visitors and travelers.; Travelers were less interested in old cathedrals and cemeteries.

Solution 1

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain how one development during the late 1600s and 1700s shaped the changes described in the passage. (1 point) — accept any: Shift in economic power to Atlantic states facilitated the growth of Paris as a cultural center.; New goods and products arriving from overseas, such as coffee, tea, and chocolate, created new types of consumption and spaces for consumption.; Population rebound after the Little Ice Age encouraged urban growth and greater urban sophistication.; Improvements in agricultural production (Agricultural Revolution) encouraged urban growth and greater urban sophistication.; Cultural shifts after the Renaissance and Reformation toward more secular values (e.g., Enlightenment or Scientific Revolution) leads to shifting interests.; Infrastructure improvements

Solution 1

and state centralization under Louis XIV led to modernization of Paris, the capital city of France.; Growth of trade and a consumer economy created a class of people with the money for leisure travel.; Emergence of a wealthy merchant class led to increased consumption of goods and experiences.