

1.5 New Monarchies

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 13 marks

Objective

Build the skills to explain the **new monarchies** 新君主国.

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

1 Worked examples

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

■ 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.

■ The instruments

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

■ 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.

2 Practice

2.1 Name three things new monarchies sought to centralise.

[3]

2.2 Name two instruments rulers used. [2]

2.3 A student writes that new monarchs "had absolute control by 1500".

(a) State why this is inaccurate. [1]

(b) State a more accurate formulation. [2]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A professional official paid by the crown rather than a local lord increases royal power because [1]

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

3.2 A marriage alliance adds territory [1]

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

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

(a) State what this shows about centralisation. [1]

(b) Explain how a ruler might reduce the constraint. [2]

4 Go further

- work through the **1.5 New Monarchies** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Renaissance and Exploration** section of the AP European History hand-out on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 taxation; justice; armed force.

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

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

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

3.2 B. inheritance transfers territory without conquest.

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