

1.8 Colonial Expansion and Columbian Exchange

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 11 marks

Objective

Build the skills to explain the **Columbian Exchange** 哥伦布大交换.

You must be able to:

- name transfers in both directions
- state the demographic effect of disease on the Americas
- explain the economic effect of new crops and silver on Europe
- avoid describing the exchange as one-directional

1 Worked examples

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

■ Both directions

Eastward: maize, potatoes, tomatoes, silver, tobacco. Westward: wheat, sugar, horses, cattle —and pathogens against which American populations had no immunity.

■ Demographic effect

Epidemic disease produced population collapse across the Americas on a scale that no European action alone could have achieved, and it preceded or accompanied conquest rather than following it.

■ Economic effect in Europe

New calorie-dense crops supported population growth; American silver entered European monetary systems and contributed to sustained price inflation.

2 Practice

2.1 Name two transfers eastward and two westward.

[2]

2.2 State the demographic effect of disease in the Americas. [2]

2.3 European population grows after new crops arrive.

(a) Name a crop responsible. [1]

(b) Explain the mechanism. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 American silver contributed in Europe to [1]

- **A** sustained price inflation
- **B** falling prices
- **C** the end of coinage
- **D** the collapse of trade

3.2 Epidemic disease in the Americas is best described as [1]

- **A** a consequence of conquest only
- **B** preceding or accompanying conquest
- **C** unrelated to contact
- **D** limited to one region

3.3 A student describes the Columbian Exchange as "what Europe took from the Americas".

(a) State what is missing. [1]

(b) Explain why the omission matters. [2]

4 Go further

- work through the **1.8 Colonial Expansion and Columbian Exchange** 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 eastward: any two of maize, potatoes, tomatoes, silver, tobacco; westward: any two of wheat, sugar, horses, cattle, pathogens.

2.2 epidemic disease produced population collapse on a scale no European action alone could have produced.

2.3 (a) the potato or maize. (b) they yield more calories per acre than existing staples, supporting a larger population from the same land.

3.1 A. an increased money supply contributed to inflation.

3.2 B. disease often ran ahead of the conquerors.

3.3 (a) the westward transfers —crops, animals and pathogens. (b) the name "exchange" records a two-way process, and the westward transfer of disease is the single largest demographic fact of the period.