

7.1 Contextualizing 19th-Century Perspectives and Political Developments

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 12 marks**

KEY WORDS increased tensions among the great powers 列强
• subjectivity and individual expression 主观性与个人表达 • positivism 实证主义
• modernism 现代主义

Objective

Build the skills to write the **context** for the later nineteenth century.

You must be able to:

- name the three threads the unit opens
- explain why the CED’s verb ‘struggled’ matters
- state what ‘intensification’ implies about empire
- explain the tension between objectivity and expression

1 Worked examples

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

■ The three threads

States struggled to maintain international stability in an age of nationalism and revolutions; a variety of motives and methods intensified European global control and increased Great-Power tension; and ideas and culture expressed a tension between objectivity and scientific realism on one hand and subjectivity and individual expression on the other.

■ ‘Struggled’

The verb concedes the outcome in advance. The Concert had broken down in 1848, and what replaced it is the subject of the unit.

■ ‘Intensification’

Control already existed; it was tightened, not begun. The same sentence names the consequence — increased tensions among the Great Powers — so imperialism is never only an overseas story.

■ The tension

The third thread is a see-saw, not a direction. Positivism and modernism are both in it, decades apart.

2 Practice

2.1 Name the three threads of the unit. [3]

2.2 Explain what “struggled” concedes. [2]

2.3 The CED speaks of the “intensification” of global control.

(a) State what this implies. [1]

(b) State the consequence named in the same sentence. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The cultural thread is described as [1]

- **A** a steady progress toward science
- **B** a tension between two poles
- **C** a rejection of art
- **D** an agreement

3.2 The Concert of Europe had broken down in

[1]

- **A** 1815
 - **B** 1848
 - **C** 1871
 - **D** 1900
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3.3 A context paragraph names conditions but no consequences.

(a) State the fault.

[1]

(b) Explain the remedy.

[2]

Solutions

2.1 the struggle to maintain international stability; the intensification of global control and Great-Power tension; the tension between objectivity and subjectivity in ideas and culture.

2.2 it concedes the outcome in advance — the states did not succeed.

2.3 (a) that control already existed and was being tightened. (b) increased tensions among the Great Powers.

3.1 B. the CED sets two poles against each other.

3.2 B. 1848 is when the Concert broke down.

3.3 (a) conditions without consequences explain nothing. (b) state what each condition made possible, which is the whole function of contextualising.