

9.14 20th- and 21st-Century Culture, Arts, and Demographic Trends

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

KEY WORDS postwar culture 战后文化

Objective

Build the skills to explain **postwar culture** 战后文化 and demography.

You must be able to:

- state the CED’s verbs for existentialism and postmodernism
- state the three challenges religion persisted despite
- name the four things that defined the century’s arts
- state the CED’s careful word about the 1968 revolts

1 Worked examples

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

■ Two verbs

World war and economic depression undermined confidence in science and human reason, **giving impetus to** existentialism and **producing** postmodernism in the post-1945 period. The two verbs differ.

■ Religion’s persistence

Organised religion **continued to play a role** despite military and ideological conflict, modern secularism and rapid social changes — a continuity claim in a unit full of change claims.

■ The arts

Defined by experimentation, self-expression, subjectivity, and the increasing influence of the United States in both elite and popular culture.

■ 1968

Intellectuals and youth reacted against **perceived** bourgeois materialism and decadence, most significantly with the revolts of 1968. “Perceived” reports the reaction’s own description of its target.

2 Practice

2.1 State the CED’s different verbs for existentialism and postmodernism. [2]

2.2 Name the three challenges religion persisted despite. [3]

2.3 The CED writes “perceived bourgeois materialism”.

(a) State what the word does. [1]

(b) State the event it introduces. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Religion is described as [1]

- A disappearing entirely
- B continuing to play a role despite challenges
- C abolished by law
- D unaffected by anything

3.2 The arts are said to be defined by experimentation, self-expression, subjectivity and [1]

- A classical revival
- B increasing U.S. influence in elite and popular culture
- C state control
- D religious commission

3.3 A decade delivers consumer comforts and a revolt against them.

(a) State what the revolt shows about the comforts. [1]

(b) Explain why both belong in one account. [2]

Solutions

2.1 existentialism was **given impetus**; postmodernism was **produced**.

2.2 military and ideological conflict; modern secularism; rapid social changes.

2.3 (a) it reports the reaction's own description of its target rather than endorsing it.

(b) the revolts of 1968.

3.1 B. the CED's continuity claim.

3.2 B. U.S. influence is the fourth.

3.3 (a) that they had arrived and were widespread enough to revolt against. (b) the same conditions produced both, so an account of either alone misdescribes the decade.