

# 1.4 Printing

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ **Total: 12 marks**

**KEY WORDS** printing 印刷术

## Objective

Build the skills to explain the effects of **printing** 印刷术.

**You must be able to:**

- state what printing changed about the production of texts
- explain its effect on the spread of ideas
- describe how it affected vernacular languages
- avoid claiming printing caused every later development

## 1 Worked examples

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

■ **What changed**

Identical copies could be produced in quantity at falling cost. Manuscript copying had produced divergent, expensive texts; print produced standard, cheaper ones.

■ **Spread of ideas**

An idea could reach many places quickly and could not easily be suppressed once printed in quantity. That changed the balance between authorities and their critics.

■ **Vernaculars**

Printing in vernacular languages standardised spelling and grammar and widened the reading public beyond those who knew Latin.

■ **Not a single cause**

Printing enabled and accelerated; it did not by itself cause the Reformation or the Scientific Revolution. Say what it made possible and what still required other conditions.

## 2 Practice

**2.1** State two things printing changed about text production. [2]

**2.2** Explain how printing affected vernacular languages. [2]

**2.3** A student writes: “Printing caused the Reformation.”

(a) State why this overstates. [1]

(b) Write a more defensible sentence. [2]

## 3 Exam-style questions

**3.1** Compared with manuscript copying, printing produced texts that were [1]

- A

B

C

D
- A more divergent and more expensive

B standard and cheaper

C rarer

D unreadable

**3.2** Printing shifted the balance between authorities and critics because [1]

- A

B

C

D
- A critics could be silenced more easily

B printed material in quantity could not easily be suppressed

C authorities owned all presses

D nobody could read

**3.3** A pamphlet is printed in 4,000 copies in three weeks.

(a) State one consequence for the authorities. [1]

(b) Explain what other condition was needed for it to have effect. [2]

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