

5.9 Continuity and Change in 18th-Century States

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

KEY WORDS romanticism 浪漫主义

Objective

Build the skills to write **continuity and change** for 1648 to 1815.

You must be able to:

- name a change and a continuity in sovereignty, commerce and thought
- explain why naming a continuity strengthens an answer
- state what the period settled and what it did not
- avoid describing only rupture

1 Worked examples

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

■ Sovereignty

Change: a rival claim that sovereignty belongs to a nation. **Continuity:** monarchy persisted almost everywhere, now answerable to a claim it had not faced before.

■ Commerce

Change: Britain ends the period holding most of the network, with financial institutions built to fight wars. **Continuity:** the network itself survived twenty-five years of war.

■ Thought

Change: Enlightenment principles reached statute and constitution. **Continuity:** reason acquired a serious critic in the same decades, so the argument continued rather than concluding.

■ Why continuity matters

Change without continuity reads as rupture; both together read as history. The continuity is also evidence that the change was real, since it shows what resisted.

2 Practice

2.1 State one change and one continuity in sovereignty. [2]

2.2 Explain why naming a continuity strengthens an answer. [2]

2.3 By 1815 monarchy persists across Europe.

(a) State what has changed about it. [1]

(b) State what has not. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Which is a continuity across 1648-1815? [1]

A	B
C	D

- A The commercial network survived the wars
- B Sovereignty acquired a rival claimant
- C Enlightenment principles reached statute
- D Romanticism emerged

3.2 Change without continuity reads as [1]

A	B
C	D

- A history
- B rupture
- C comparison
- D causation

3.3 Write a continuity-and-change paragraph on European thought, 1648-1815. [4]
