

# 7.4 Darwinism, Social Darwinism

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ **Total: 11 marks**

**KEY WORDS** social darwinism 社会达尔文主义

## Objective

Build the skills to distinguish **Darwin’s science** from **Social Darwinism** 社会达尔文主义.

**You must be able to:**

- state what Darwin provided
- state what the CED’s adverb ‘inadvertently’ does
- explain why the misuse was available
- keep the science and the social claim apart in an answer

## 1 Worked examples

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

### ■ What Darwin provided

A scientific and material account of biological change and the development of human beings as a species. **Material** means the account requires no purpose and no designer.

### ■ ‘Inadvertently’

The CED says he inadvertently provided a justification for racist theories that became known as Social Darwinism. The adverb separates the science from the use made of it.

### ■ Why available

A vocabulary of struggle, fitness and survival transfers easily to societies if nobody checks whether the transfer is valid — and it arrived when imperial ventures needed justification and chauvinism needed a language.

### ■ Keeping them apart

State the scientific claim, state the social claim, then name the gap: a description of how species change is not an instruction about how societies should be arranged.

## 2 Practice

**2.1** State what Darwin provided and what “material” means here. [2]

**2.2** Explain what the adverb “inadvertently” achieves. [2]

**2.3** A vocabulary of struggle is transferred from biology to society.

(a) State the missing step. [1]

(b) State why the transfer was attractive at the time. [1]

## 3 Exam-style questions

**3.1** “Material” indicates that the account requires no [1]

|   |   |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |

A evidence

B purpose or designer

C observation

D publication

**3.2** The correct statement is that the science was [1]

|   |   |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |

A proof of racial hierarchy

B taken up to justify hierarchy, not that it entailed one

C unrelated to any social claim

D invented for that purpose

**3.3** A student writes that Darwin's theory proved some peoples superior.

(a) State the error. [1]

(b) Explain the correct formulation. [2]

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