

Exercise walk-through

4.10

Consequences of Centrifugal and Centripetal Forces

AP Human Geography

Cohesion depends on groups and scale

Concept	Direction and condition
Centrifugal forces	Weaken cohesion at the specified scale, for example exclusion that fuels separatist demands.
Centripetal forces	Strengthen cohesion, for example equitable access and inclusive institutions.
Ethnic nationalism	Can unite an ethnic community while excluding others and weakening wider state cohesion.
failed states	Broad textbook term for severe loss of authority and service provision; not the inevitable end of every disagreement.
ethnonationalism	: specify whose cohesion increases and at what scale.

Cohesion: original attempt

A rail programme connects previously underserved regions. A language policy provides government services only in one group's language.

Explain how each policy could affect cohesion. Specify which groups and which scale.

What evidence would challenge the claim that every national language policy is centripetal?

Cohesion: worked explanation

Better transport can reduce isolation and improve access to jobs and services, potentially increasing attachment to the wider state. Investigate who benefits from routes and fares.

An exclusive language rule may strengthen one group's common identity while reducing others' access and sense of inclusion. Group cohesion and state cohesion can move differently.

The mechanism and affected groups determine the classification, not the policy name alone.

Built form and political cohesion



Hong Kong skyline

A skyline does not measure political loyalty or state cohesion.

Built form can show concentrated development. Political effects need evidence about access, distribution, identity and institutions.

Do not infer shared loyalties or inevitable unity from a dense city image.

Exercises 2.1-2.2

2.1 Define a centrifugal force and give one example.

[2]

2.2 State one centripetal force and explain how it helps a state.

[2]

Exercises 2.1-2.2

2.1 Define a centrifugal force and give one example.

[2]

2.1

- a force that divides/destabilizes a state; e.g. deep ethnic, religious, or economic division

2.2 State one centripetal force and explain how it helps a state.

[2]

2.2

- a shared national language/identity; it unites people and strengthens loyalty to the state

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 A country has sharp regional inequality and separatist feeling.

(a) Which type of force is dominant?

[1]

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[1]

(a)

- centrifugal

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 A country has sharp regional inequality and separatist feeling.

(b) State one policy to build a centripetal force instead.

[1]

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 A country has sharp regional inequality and separatist feeling.

(b) State one policy to build a centripetal force instead.

[1]

(b)

- fairer investment across regions / inclusive national identity / devolution

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 A shared national identity that unites a diverse population is a

[1]

☐

A centrifugal force

B centripetal force

C relict boundary

D push factor

3.2 Deep religious and language divisions that threaten to split a state are

[1]

☐

A centripetal forces

B centrifugal forces

C supranational forces

D geometric boundaries

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 A shared national identity that unites a diverse population is a

[1]

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- A centrifugal force
- B centripetal force
- C relict boundary
- D push factor

3.1 B

- a unifying identity is a centripetal force

3.2 Deep religious and language divisions that threaten to split a state are

[1]

☐

- A centripetal forces
- B centrifugal forces
- C supranational forces
- D geometric boundaries

3.2 B

- divisions pulling a state apart are centrifugal forces

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 A government wants to hold a divided country together.

(a) State one centripetal measure it could take.

[1]

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3.3 A government wants to hold a divided country together.

(a) State one centripetal measure it could take.

[1]

(a)

- inclusive national symbols, shared official language, fair regional investment, or devolution

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 A government wants to hold a divided country together.

(b) Explain how it counteracts centrifugal forces.

[1]

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 A government wants to hold a divided country together.

(b) Explain how it counteracts centrifugal forces.

[1]

(b)

- it builds shared loyalty/fairness, weakening reasons to divide