

4.2 Political Processes

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 10 marks

Objective

Build the skills to answer exam questions on **political processes** 政治过程—sovereignty and self-determination.

You must be able to:

- define **sovereignty** 主权 and **self-determination** 自决
- distinguish **colonialism** 殖民主义 from **imperialism** 帝国主义
- define **neocolonialism** 新殖民主义
- explain how these processes shaped today’s political map

1 Worked examples

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

■ Sovereignty and self-determination

Sovereignty is a state’s right to govern itself without outside interference. **Self-determination** is a people’s right to choose their own governance.

■ Colonialism and imperialism

Imperialism is extending power over other territories by various means. **Colonialism** is one form —settling and directly ruling a distant territory.

■ Neocolonialism

Neocolonialism is indirect control of a former colony through economic or political pressure rather than direct rule.

2 Practice

2.1 Define sovereignty. [2]

2.2 State the difference between colonialism and neocolonialism. [2]

2.3 A former colony is politically independent but depends heavily on a richer country's loans and companies.

(a) Name this relationship. [1]

(b) Explain how it limits the country's real sovereignty. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A people's right to decide their own form of government is [1]

- **A** sovereignty
 - **B** self-determination
 - **C** devolution
 - **D** gerrymandering
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3.2 Controlling a former colony through economic power rather than direct rule is [1]

- **A** colonialism
 - **B** neocolonialism
 - **C** self-determination
 - **D** federalism
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3.3 An empire once directly ruled many overseas territories.

(a) Name the process of settling and ruling those territories. [1]

(b) State one lasting effect on today's political map. [1]

4 Go further

- work through the **4.2 Political Processes** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Political Patterns and Processes** section of the AP Human Geography handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 a state's supreme authority to govern itself within its territory, free of outside control.

2.2 colonialism = direct settlement and rule of a territory; neocolonialism = indirect economic/political control after formal independence.

2.3 (a) neocolonialism. (b) economic dependence lets the outside power influence its decisions.

3.1 B. a people choosing their own governance = self-determination.

3.2 B. indirect economic control = neocolonialism.

3.3 (a) colonialism. (b) borders, official languages, or state boundaries drawn by the colonisers remain.