

## 3.5 Historical Causes of Diffusion

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: 10 marks

**KEY WORDS** trade 贸易 • colonialism 殖民主义 • imperialism 帝国主义  
• historical causes of diffusion 历史传播原因 • diffusion 扩散

### Objective

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Build the skills to answer exam questions on **historical causes of diffusion** 历史传播原因.

You must be able to:

- explain how **colonialism** 殖民主义 and **imperialism** 帝国主义 spread culture
- explain how **trade** 贸易 routes diffused ideas
- explain how historical migration diffused language and religion
- give one lasting effect of historical diffusion

### 1 Worked examples

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

#### ■ Colonialism and imperialism

**Colonialism** and **imperialism** imposed a ruling culture's language, religion, and institutions on distant territories — often lasting long after the empire ended.

#### ■ Trade routes

Trade routes such as the Silk Road diffused goods, religions, technologies, and languages between distant regions over centuries.

#### ■ Lasting effects

Historical diffusion explains why languages like English, Spanish, and French, and major religions, are spoken and practised far from where they began.

### 2 Practice

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2.1 Explain how colonialism spread language across the world.

[2]

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**2.2** State one way trade routes historically caused diffusion. [2]

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**2.3** A country far from Europe has a European language as an official language.

(a) State the most likely historical cause. [1]

(b) Name the diffusion type involved when settlers brought the language. [1]

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### 3 Exam-style questions

**3.1** The spread of a major world religion along ancient trade routes is an example of [1]

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** historical diffusion
  - B** time-space compression
  - C** carrying capacity
  - D** a relict boundary

**3.2** Colonial languages remaining official long after independence shows that diffusion can have [1]

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** no lasting effects
  - B** long-lasting cultural effects
  - C** only economic effects
  - D** reversed itself

**3.3** Two distant continents share a common religion introduced centuries ago.

(a) Give one historical process that could explain this. [1]

(b) Explain why the effect still shows today. [1]

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