

3.5 Historical Causes of Diffusion

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

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

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

2.1 Explain how colonialism spread language across the world. [2]

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

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]

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]
