

## 3.8 Effects of Diffusion

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

**Total: 10 marks**

**KEY WORDS** assimilation 同化 • acculturation 涵化 • cultural convergence 文化趋同  
• syncretism 文化融合 • multiculturalism 多元文化

### Objective

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Build the skills to answer exam questions on the **effects of diffusion** 传播的影响.

**You must be able to:**

- distinguish **cultural convergence** 文化趋同 from **cultural divergence** 文化趋异
- distinguish **acculturation** 涵化 from **assimilation** 同化
- define **syncretism** 文化融合
- explain **multiculturalism** 多元文化

### 1 Worked examples

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

#### ■ Convergence vs divergence

**Cultural convergence:** cultures grow more alike as they share traits. **Cultural divergence:** a culture resists or separates to protect its identity.

#### ■ Acculturation vs assimilation

**Acculturation:** a group adopts some traits of another while keeping its own. **Assimilation:** a group fully blends in and loses its original distinct culture.

#### ■ Syncretism and multiculturalism

**Syncretism** blends two cultures into something new (a fusion cuisine or music). **Multiculturalism** is many cultures coexisting within one society.

### 2 Practice

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**2.1** State the difference between acculturation and assimilation.

[2]

**2.2** Define syncretism and give one example. [2]

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**2.3** Two societies increasingly wear the same clothes, eat the same foods, and use the same apps.

(a) Name this effect of diffusion. [1]

(b) State one reason a group might instead resist and diverge. [1]

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### 3 Exam-style questions

**3.1** Two distant cultures becoming more similar through shared media and products shows [1]

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|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** cultural divergence
  - B** cultural convergence
  - C** relict boundaries
  - D** distance decay

**3.2** An immigrant group that fully adopts the host culture and loses its own has undergone [1]

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** acculturation
  - B** assimilation
  - C** syncretism
  - D** divergence

**3.3** A city's neighbourhoods each keep distinct languages, foods, and festivals side by side.

(a) Name this social pattern. [1]

(b) Explain how it differs from assimilation. [1]

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