

4.6 Internal Boundaries

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 10 marks**

KEY WORDS internal boundaries 内部边界 • boundary 边界 • relic 残余边界 • state 国家
• nation 民族

Objective

Build the skills to answer exam questions on **internal boundaries** 内部边界 and electoral geography.

You must be able to:

- explain why states create internal boundaries
- link internal boundaries to representation
- explain how redistricting reflects population change
- connect internal boundaries to unitary vs federal structures

1 Worked examples

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

■ **Why internal boundaries exist**

States divide their territory into provinces, districts, or counties to organize government, services, and elections.

■ **Boundaries and representation**

Voting districts must be redrawn (**redistricting**) as population shifts so each representative speaks for a fair share of people.

■ **Structure and boundaries**

A **unitary** state keeps power central with weaker internal units; a **federal** state gives real power to its internal units (states/provinces).

2 Practice

2.1 State one reason a country creates internal administrative boundaries. [2]

2.2 Explain why districts must be redrawn as population changes. [2]

2.3 A federal country gives its provinces control over their own schools and police.

(a) State how this differs from a unitary state. [1]

(b) State one benefit of strong internal units. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Redrawing internal voting districts after a census mainly aims to [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A favour one party
B keep representation roughly equal
C erase relict boundaries
D raise carrying capacity

3.2 Internal units with real, constitutionally protected power indicate a [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A unitary state
B federal state
C stateless nation
D relict boundary

3.3 A country's regions demand more say over local matters.

(a) State one way internal boundaries help meet this demand. [1]

(b) Explain how ignoring the demand could threaten unity. [1]
