

4.9 Challenges to Sovereignty

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

KEY WORDS supranational organization 超国家组织 • devolution 权力下放
• challenges to sovereignty 主权面临的挑战 • state 国家 • sovereignty 主权

Objective

Build the skills to answer exam questions on **challenges to sovereignty** 主权面临的挑战.

You must be able to:

- define a **supranational organization** 超国家组织
- give an example (UN, EU) and its purpose
- explain how supranationalism can limit sovereignty
- explain how devolution challenges sovereignty from within

1 Worked examples

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

■ Supranational organizations

A **supranational organization** is an alliance of states pooling some power for shared goals — trade, security, or cooperation (e.g. the UN, the EU).

■ Limiting sovereignty from above

Joining such a body means accepting shared rules, so a state gives up some **sovereignty** in exchange for benefits like open trade or collective security.

■ Challenges from within

Devolution and separatist movements challenge sovereignty from below, as regions seek to take power from the central state.

2 Practice

2.1 Define a supranational organization and give one example. [2]

2.2 Explain how joining a supranational body can reduce a state's sovereignty. [2]

2.3 A state faces a strong regional independence movement and also belongs to a trade union of states.

(a) Name the challenge to sovereignty from below. [1]

(b) Name the challenge from above. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The United Nations is best described as a [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** unitary state
B supranational organization
C stateless nation
D relict boundary

3.2 A country accepting a trade bloc's shared regulations has traded some sovereignty for [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** isolation
B economic benefits
C a relict boundary
D higher fertility

3.3 A trade bloc sets rules its members must all follow.

(a) Explain one benefit a member gains. [1]

(b) Explain one cost to its sovereignty. [1]
