

Exercise walk-through

Causation in Period 4 ■ 4.14

eXercise

You must be able to

- state what a causation question asks
- name a cause and an effect from the period's key concepts
- distinguish a cause from a condition
- rank causes against a stated criterion

Method — The question

A causation question asks why something happened, which requires naming a cause and showing the connection — not narrating what followed.

Method — A chain from the CED

Innovations in technology and commerce (KC-4.2) → an accelerated economy → profound changes to society and to national **and regional** identities → the divergence period 5 turns into a crisis.

Method — Cause and condition

A **condition** makes something possible; a **cause** brings it about. Abundant western land was a condition for the expansion of slavery; overcultivation in the Southeast was a cause of the particular relocation the CED describes.

Method — Ranking

Where more than one cause is available, name a criterion — necessity, proximity, scale — and rank against it. The CED's own qualifiers (“often”, “for some”, “largely”) are the material for limiting a judgment.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

State what a causation question asks for.

Solution 2.1

Method: The question

Worked steps

why something happened **B1**, naming a cause and showing the connection rather than narrating what followed **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Distinguish a cause from a condition with an example.

Solution 2.2

Method: Cause and condition

Worked steps

a condition makes something possible and a cause brings it about **B1**; e.g. western land was a condition for slavery's expansion while overcultivation caused the particular relocation **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 2 marks

Causes can be ranked.

(a) Name two criteria.

(b) State what the CED's qualifiers supply.

Solution 2.3

Method: Ranking

Worked steps

(a) any two of: necessity; proximity; scale **B2**. (b) the material for limiting a judgment **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

A causation answer must show

- A** the connection between cause and outcome
- B** the sequence of events only
- C** the date
- D** the sources

Solution 3.1

A the connection between cause and outcome



B the sequence of events only

C the date

D the sources

Worked steps

A. the connection.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

Abundant western land is best described as

A a condition

B a cause

C an effect

D a compromise

Solution 3.2

Method: Cause and condition

A a condition



B a cause

C an effect

D a compromise

Worked steps

A. a condition.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 4 marks

Write a paragraph explaining one cause of the divergence between North and South by 1848.

Solution 3.3

Worked steps

a cause named **B1**; evidence from the period **B1**; the connection to the outcome explained **B1**; the claim limited rather than absolute **B1**.