

1.3 European Exploration in the Americas

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

Objective

Build the skills to explain the **causes of exploration** 探索的原因.

You must be able to:

- name the three causes the CED gives
- distinguish the economic from the religious cause
- explain why competition is a distinct cause
- avoid reducing the causes to one

1 Worked examples

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

■ Three causes

European nations' efforts stemmed from **a search for new sources of wealth, economic and military competition, and a desire to spread Christianity.**

■ Economic and religious

The first is a want; the third is a mission. They can reinforce each other, and the CED lists them separately rather than treating one as a cover for the other.

■ Competition

Economic and military competition is a cause in its own right: a nation may explore because a rival is exploring, regardless of what it expects to find.

■ Not one cause

A single-cause answer —"they wanted gold" —drops two of the CED's three and cannot explain why the effort was sustained through failures.

2 Practice

2.1 Name the three causes the CED gives.

[3]

2.2 Explain why competition is a distinct cause. [2]

2.3 A single-cause answer fails.

(a) State what it drops. [1]

(b) State what it cannot explain. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The CED's causes include a desire to [1]

- **A** spread Christianity
 - **B** end slavery
 - **C** found universities
 - **D** map the poles
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3.2 A nation exploring because a rival is exploring illustrates [1]

- **A** economic and military competition
 - **B** the search for wealth
 - **C** religious mission
 - **D** none of the causes
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3.3 A voyage returns with no wealth and another is funded the following year.

(a) State which cause this supports. [1]

(b) Explain the reasoning. [2]

4 Go further

- work through the **1.3 European Exploration in the Americas** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Period 1: 1491-1607** section of the AP US History handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 a search for new sources of wealth; economic and military competition; a desire to spread Christianity.

2.2 a nation may explore because a rival is exploring, regardless of what it expects to find.

2.3 (a) two of the CED's three causes. (b) why the effort continued through failures.

3.1 A. spreading Christianity.

3.2 A. competition.

3.3 (a) competition, or religious mission. (b) the wealth motive alone would predict abandonment after a failed voyage, so continuing implies a motive that does not depend on the return.