

3.11 Developing an American Identity

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 13 marks**

KEY WORDS national culture 民族文化

Objective

Build the skills to explain **national culture** 民族文化.

You must be able to:

- state the CED’s double claim about national culture
- name the three forms in which national identity found expression
- explain why regional variation persisted
- avoid describing a single American identity

1 Worked examples

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

■ **The double claim**

New forms of national culture developed in the United States alongside continued regional variations. Both at once, and “alongside” refuses a replacement.

■ **Three forms**

Ideas about national identity increasingly found expression in works of art, literature, and architecture.

■ **Regional variation**

Period 2 established four distinct colonial regions with different economies, labour systems and political forms. Independence did not merge them, so the national culture developed over a persisting regional structure.

■ **Not one identity**

The CED puts the national and the regional in one sentence. An answer describing only an emerging American identity has dropped the half that explains the next sixty years.

2 Practice

2.1 State the CED’s double claim about national culture. [2]

2.2 Name the three forms of expression. [3]

2.3 Regional variation persisted.

(a) Explain why. [2]

(b) State what an answer describing only national identity drops. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 “Alongside” indicates that national culture [1]

- **A** developed without replacing regional variation
- **B** replaced regional variation
- **C** never developed
- **D** was imported

3.2 National identity found expression in art, literature and [1]

- **A** architecture
- **B** agriculture
- **C** taxation
- **D** the militia

3.3 A nation forms from regions with different economies and labour systems.

(a) State what independence did not do. [1]

(b) Explain the consequence for the period ahead. [2]

Solutions

2.1 new forms of national culture developed alongside continued regional variations.

2.2 works of art; literature; architecture.

2.3 (a) the colonial regions had different economies, labour systems and political forms which independence did not merge. (b) the half that explains the sectional conflict of the following decades.

3.1 A. alongside, not instead of.

3.2 A. architecture.

3.3 (a) it did not merge the regions. (b) a national culture developed over a persisting regional structure, so the differences remained available to become political divisions.