

4.1 Contextualizing Period 4

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

KEY WORDS context 背景 • specialise 专业化

Objective

Build the skills to write the **context** 背景 for 1800-1848.

You must be able to:

- state the CED’s three key concepts for the period
- explain the phrase ‘change their society and institutions to match them’
- state what innovations precipitated
- state what shaped foreign policy

1 Worked examples

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

■ Three key concepts

KC-4.1: the United States began to develop a modern democracy and celebrated a new national culture, **while Americans sought to define the nation’s democratic ideals and change their society and institutions to match them.** **KC-4.2:** innovations in technology, agriculture and commerce powerfully accelerated the economy, **precipitating profound changes to U.S. society and to national and regional identities.** **KC-4.3:** interest in increasing foreign trade and expanding national borders shaped foreign policy and spurred government and private initiatives.

■ Matching ideals

The phrase concedes that the institutions did **not** match the ideals. That gap is the period’s reform movements, its abolitionism and its women’s rights convention in a single clause.

■ Precipitating

The economy’s acceleration produced social change, not the reverse. The CED puts the technological cause first and the identity change after it.

■ Both identities

“National **and** regional identities” — the same economic change strengthened a national economy and sharpened regional difference, which is why period 5 follows.

2 Practice

2.1 State the CED’s three key concepts for the period. [3]

2.2 Explain what “change their society and institutions to match them” concedes. [2]

2.3 Innovation changed identity in two directions.

(a) State them. [2]

(b) State what shaped foreign policy. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 KC-4.2 says innovations precipitated changes to society and to [1]

- **A** national and regional identities
- **B** the Constitution
- **C** foreign languages
- **D** nothing

3.2 “Change their institutions to match them” concedes that the institutions [1]

- **A** did not match the ideals
- **B** already matched them
- **C** had no ideals
- **D** were foreign

3.3 A single economic change strengthens a national economy and sharpens regional difference.

(a) State how both can hold. [1]

(b) Explain why this matters for the next period. [2]

Solutions

2.1 the development of a modern democracy and national culture alongside efforts to match institutions to ideals; innovations accelerating the economy and changing society and identities; interest in foreign trade and expanding borders shaping foreign policy.

2.2 that the institutions did not match the ideals, which is what the period's reform movements addressed.

2.3 (a) it strengthened national identity and sharpened regional identity. (b) U.S. interest in increasing foreign trade and expanding its national borders.

3.1 A. national and regional identities.

3.2 A. they did not match.

3.3 (a) the same trade network ties regions together and specialises them differently. (b) specialised regions develop divergent interests, which become the political divisions of period 5.