

1.1 Contextualizing Period 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

KEY WORDS context 背景 • columbian exchange 哥伦布大交换

Objective

Build the skills to write the **context** 背景 for 1491-1607.

You must be able to:

- state the CED’s two key concepts for the period
- explain the verbs ‘adapting to and transforming’
- state what ‘on both sides of the Atlantic’ claims
- distinguish context from narrative

1 Worked examples

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

■ Two key concepts

KC-1.1: native populations developed distinct and increasingly complex societies by **adapting to and transforming their diverse environments**. **KC-1.2:** contact resulted in the Columbian Exchange and significant social, cultural and political changes **on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean**.

■ Two verbs

Adapting to and transforming. The CED refuses a one-way relationship between people and environment: societies were shaped by their environments and reshaped them.

■ Both sides

Europe changed too. An account in which Europe acts and the Americas are acted upon has taken half of KC-1.2.

■ Context and narrative

Context is what was already true when the period’s events began — the societies present, the pressures acting on Europe, the technologies available. A narrative of what happened is not a context for it.

2 Practice

2.1 State the CED’s two key concepts for the period. [2]

2.2 Explain what “adapting to and transforming” refuses. [2]

2.3 “On both sides of the Atlantic” is load-bearing.

(a) State what it claims. [1]

(b) Distinguish context from narrative. [2]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The CED says native societies were [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A static
B distinct and increasingly complex
C identical across the continent
D recently arrived

3.2 An account in which only Europe acts has taken [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A half of KC-1.2
B all of KC-1.2
C none of the CED
D the correct approach

3.3 A student's contextualisation retells the voyages of 1492.

(a) State the problem. [1]

(b) Explain what a context should contain instead. [2]
