

Past-paper walk-through

The Mongol Empire and the Making of the Modern World ■ 2.2

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2025 Set 2 Q3
- 2024 Set 2 Q3

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 3

2025 Set 2 ■ Q3

Respond to parts A, B, and C.

- (a)** Identify one development that contributed to the spread of gunpowder technologies in the period before circa 1500.
- (b)** Explain one way the use of military technologies affected the development of land-based empires in the period circa 1450 to 1750.
- (c)** Explain one way navigational technologies contributed to economic change in the period circa 1450 to 1750.

Solution 3

(a)

Mark scheme

- Identify one development that contributed to the spread of gunpowder technologies in the period before circa 1500. (1 point) — accept any: The Mongol conquests contributed to the spread of gunpowder technologies.; Warfare between states led to the spread of gunpowder technologies.; Some states employed foreign military specialists who could train their forces in how to use new types of cannons and other gunpowder weapons.; Gunpowder technologies spread along trade routes, such as the Silk Road and the Indian Ocean.

Solution 3

(b) Mark scheme

- Explain one way the use of military technologies affected the development of land-based empires in the period circa 1450 to 1750. (1 point) — accept any: Muslim empires such as the Ottomans and Mughals used armed trade and gunpowder to expand their territories by conquering weaker neighboring states.; Some European states were able to create overseas empires by using cannons and other gunpowder weapons against the technologically less developed societies they encountered.; Many states were able to use gunpowder weapons to eliminate or reduce challenges to their authority from the nobility, for example by building or expanding their professional armies.

Solution 3

(c)

Mark scheme

- Explain one way navigational technologies contributed to economic change in the period circa 1450 to 1750. (1 point) — accept any: Improved compass designs enabled Europeans to sail to the Americas, eventually creating the Atlantic system of trade.; Knowledge of seasonal monsoon winds allowed European states to establish trading-post empires in the Indian Ocean.; Improved astrolabes and better mapmaking techniques facilitated European exploration of the African coast, which led them to set up trading posts on the continent.

Question 3

2024 Set 2 ■ Q3

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Identify ONE development in the period circa 1200–1300 that facilitated the establishment of the Mongol Empire.
- (b)** Identify ONE development in the period circa 1200–1300 that enabled the Mongol Empire to facilitate Afro-Eurasian trade and/or communications.
- (c)** Explain ONE reason why the Mongol khanates often facilitated the spread of cultural or religious practices.

Solution 3

(a) Mark scheme

- Identify ONE development in the period circa 1200–1300 that facilitated the establishment of the Mongol Empire. (1 point) — accept any: The decline of the Song dynasty in China helped the Mongols expand in East Asia.; The fragmentation of the Muslim world after the decline of the Abbasid Caliphate helped the Mongols establish their empire in the Middle East.; The Mongols' use of superior cavalry tactics allowed them to quickly and efficiently conquer other peoples.; Genghis Khan's reorganization of Mongol society facilitated the creation of a centralized military, which enabled the conquest of Eurasia.

Solution 3

(b) Mark scheme

- Identify ONE development in the period circa 1200–1300 that enabled the Mongol Empire to facilitate Afro-Eurasian trade and/or communications. (1 point) — accept any: The Mongol conquests helped bring stability and security for trade.; The Mongol conquests brought new peoples into their economy and trade networks.; The unification of regions throughout Afro-Eurasia under the Mongols increased communication and travel among different peoples; Mongol innovations such as the postal/relay [yam] system improved communications.; Mongol adoption of trade-friendly institutions and practices developed by neighboring cultures, such as paper money and caravanserais, enabled the Mongols to facilitate trade and/or communications.

Solution 3

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain ONE reason why the Mongol khanates often facilitated the spread of cultural or religious practices. (1 point) — accept any: The Mongol khanates encouraged cultural transfers as contact among different peoples increased due to the immense size of the territories conquered by the Mongols.; Mongol rulers often adopted the religions of their subjects, such as Islam or Buddhism, and this helped increase the spread of those religions.; The Mongols were generally tolerant of different religious or cultural practices, which allowed those practices to flourish and spread along the Silk Roads.; The Mongols tolerated a wide range of different practices or traditions in order to demonstrate their legitimacy and strengthen their states, which helped those practices spread through the Mongol khanates.