

Past-paper walk-through

Columbian Exchange ■ 4.3

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2025 Set 1 Q1
- 2024 Set 1 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 1

2025 Set 1 ■ Q1

It is presented here in a format optimized for teacher and student use in the classroom.

3 “Asia experienced a temporary gain from the discovery of America, but Africa suffered. America had all the silver and gold Europe needed, and this destroyed the African gold markets and the dependent trade networks. Cities such as Timbuktu and the Songhai Empire of which it was a part crumbled as merchants abandoned the ancient trade routes. To replace the Mediterranean trade of cloth, beads, leather, and metals upon which the Africans had become dependent, the Africans now had only one commodity that the Europeans wanted—slaves. For centuries the African merchants had sold a small but steady number of slaves to the Middle East, but with the decline of their traditional European trade and with the opening of America, the slave trade became a boom. The Africans thus became victims of the discovery of America as

Question 1

surely as did the American Indians.” Source: Jack Weatherford, United States anthropologist, academic book, 1988

Respond to parts A, B, and C.

- (a)** Identify one claim that the author makes in the first paragraph about the effect of the discovery of the Americas on Africa.
- (b)** Describe one economic change in the Americas that occurred as a result of the developments discussed in the second paragraph.
- (c)** Explain one reason why “American Indians” “became victims of the discovery of America” as suggested by the author in the last sentence of the passage.

Solution 1

(a)

Mark scheme

- Identify one claim that the author makes in the first paragraph about the effect of the discovery of the Americas on Africa. (1 point) — accept any: The African gold markets were destroyed.; It resulted in the decline of cities and empires in Africa.; It caused the abandonment of ancient trade routes.

Solution 1

(b)

Mark scheme

- Describe one economic change in the Americas that occurred as a result of the developments discussed in the second paragraph. (1 point) — accept any: The plantation system in the Americas became widespread.; The increased availability of enslaved labor from Africa further developed the pattern of triangular trade between Europe, Africa, and the Americas.; The decrease in Indigenous labor in the Americas created a demand for an increased number of enslaved laborers from Africa.

Solution 1

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain one reason why “American Indians” “became victims of the discovery of America,” as suggested by the author in the last sentence of the passage. (1 point) — accept any: The Columbian Exchange resulted in a high death rate for Native Americans due to the introduction of diseases originating in Afro-Eurasia.; With the arrival of the Spanish and the introduction of new labor systems, such as the encomienda and hacienda systems, Native American labor was exploited.; Native American tribes lost their ancestral homelands as European colonists took over land for economic gain.; Europeans often forced Christianization on Native Americans that resulted in the loss of cultural traditions.

Question 3

2024 Set 1 ■ Q3

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Identify ONE method Europeans used to expand their empires in the Americas in the period circa 1450–1750.
- (b)** Explain ONE way European colonialism affected Indigenous peoples in the Americas in the period circa 1450–1750.
- (c)** Explain ONE way European interactions with non-European peoples in the Americas contributed to the development of a global economy in the period circa 1450–1750.

Solution 3

(a)

Mark scheme

- Identify ONE method Europeans used to expand their empires in the Americas in the period circa 1450–1750. (1 point) — accept any: Europeans used gunpowder weapons to conquer new territories in the Americas.; The Spanish used the encomienda system to expand the areas in their empires under cultivation.; Europeans used Christianity to help consolidate and justify their rule.

Solution 3

(b) Mark scheme

- Explain ONE way European colonialism affected Indigenous peoples in the Americas in the period circa 1450–1750. (1 point) — accept any: Indigenous communities experienced multiple waves of diseases, epidemics, or even demographic collapse.; Many Indigenous peoples adopted European and/or African cultural practices that formed new syncretic belief systems.; European colonial authorities used priests and missionaries to convert Indigenous people to Christianity.; The casta system resulted in a new social hierarchy involving Indigenous and mixed- race families.; Many Indigenous people were enslaved or forced to work in mines or on European- owned haciendas.

Solution 3

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain ONE way European interactions with non-European peoples in the Americas contributed to the development of a global economy in the period circa 1450-1750. (1 point) — accept any: European interactions with Indigenous peoples in the Americas led to the Columbian Exchange, which led to the spread of crops, technologies, goods, and diseases between the two hemispheres.; The Trans-Atlantic slave trade brought millions of enslaved Africans to the Americas and significantly expanded the Atlantic economy through plantations and cash crops.; Silver mined in the Americas using Indigenous labor fueled the purchase of Asian goods by Europeans, especially after the establishment of trans-Pacific maritime trade from the Americas to East Asia.; Economic exchanges in the North

Solution 3

Atlantic, including the fur trade and commercial fishing, also connected the Americas to Afro-Eurasia in new ways.