

1.5 State Building in Africa

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 12 marks**

KEY WORDS state building in africa 非洲 • comparison 比较

Objective

Build the skills to explain **state building in Africa** 非洲.

You must be able to:

- state the CED’s comparative claim about Africa
- name the three regions the CED puts on equal footing
- explain what the parallel wording is doing
- connect African state building to 2.4

1 Worked examples

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

■ The claim

In Africa, **as in Eurasia and the Americas**, state systems demonstrated continuity, innovation and diversity **and expanded in scope and reach**.

■ Three regions, one sentence

Eurasia, the Americas and Africa receive the same wording. The CED is deliberately refusing a hierarchy of regions.

■ What the parallel does

Identical wording is an argument: state formation is a global process with regional forms, not a European or Asian achievement copied elsewhere.

■ Link to 2.4

2.4 records that the expansion of empires **including Mali in West Africa** facilitated Afro-Eurasian trade, so African states are also participants in unit 2’s networks.

2 Practice

2.1 State the CED’s claim about African state systems. [2]

2.2 Name the three regions given identical wording. [3]

2.3 The CED uses identical wording for three regions.

(a) State what this is arguing. [1]

(b) State the link to unit 2. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Identical wording across three regions refuses [1]

- **A** all comparison
- **B** a hierarchy of regions
- **C** any evidence
- **D** chronology

3.2 2.4 names the West African empire of [1]

- **A** Mali
- **B** Song
- **C** Delhi
- **D** Kiev

3.3 A textbook describes African states only as trading partners of others.

(a) State the failure.

[1]

(b) Explain what the CED's wording requires instead.

[2]

Solutions

2.1 they demonstrated continuity, innovation and diversity and expanded in scope and reach.

2.2 Eurasia; the Americas; Africa.

2.3 (a) that state formation is a global process with regional forms. (b) 2.4's expansion of empires including Mali facilitated Afro-Eurasian trade.

3.1 B. no region is ranked above another.

3.2 A. Mali is the CED's example.

3.3 (a) it treats African states as objects of others' history rather than states in their own right. (b) the same analysis applied to them as to Eurasia and the Americas — continuity, innovation, diversity and expansion in scope and reach.