

# 1.7 Comparison in the Period from c. 1200 to c. 1450

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total: 14 marks**

## Objective

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Build the skills to **compare** 比较 state formation across regions.

**You must be able to:**

- state what a comparison must contain
- name a similarity that holds across all regions
- name a difference and its basis
- avoid writing two descriptions instead of one comparison

## 1 Worked examples

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

### ■ What a comparison contains

A similarity **and** a difference, both stated with evidence, and a basis on which they are being compared. Two descriptions side by side are not a comparison.

### ■ The similarity

State formation and development demonstrated continuity, innovation and diversity **in various regions**—the CED's own cross-regional claim, applied identically to East Asia, South Asia, the Americas, Africa and Europe.

### ■ A difference

Centralisation. The Song used a bureaucracy and an examination-based officialdom; Europe was fragmented into decentralised monarchies with feudal obligations. The basis of comparison is how authority reached the governed.

### ■ The common error

Writing a paragraph on China and a paragraph on Europe and stopping. The comparison is the sentence that names the basis and says how the two stand on it.

## 2 Practice

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**2.1** State the three things a comparison must contain. [3]

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**2.2** State one cross-regional similarity with its CED wording. [2]

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**2.3** Compare Song China and Europe on centralisation.

(a) State the basis of comparison. [1]

(b) State how each stands on it. [2]

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### 3 Exam-style questions

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**3.1** Two descriptions placed side by side are [1]

- **A** a comparison
- **B** not yet a comparison
- **C** a causation argument
- **D** a continuity argument

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**3.2** The CED's cross-regional similarity is continuity, innovation and [1]

- **A** decline
- **B** diversity
- **C** isolation
- **D** conquest

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**3.3** Write a comparison of state building in the Americas and in Africa. [4]

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## 4 Go further

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- work through the **1.7 Comparison in the Period from c. 1200 to c. 1450** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **The Global Tapestry** section of the AP World History handout on the **Know** page.

## Solutions

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**2.1** a similarity; a difference; a stated basis of comparison.

**2.2** state formation demonstrated continuity, innovation and diversity in various regions.

**2.3** (a) how authority reached the governed. (b) the Song used a centralised bureaucracy and examination-based officialdom; Europe used decentralised monarchies and feudal obligation.

**3.1 B.** the comparative sentence is still missing.

**3.2 B.** diversity is the third.

**3.3** a basis of comparison stated; a similarity with evidence; a difference with evidence; a sentence relating the two rather than listing them.