

2.2 The Mongol Empire and the Making of the Modern World

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 11 marks**

KEY WORDS mongol empire 蒙古帝国

Objective

Build the skills to explain the **Mongol Empire** 蒙古帝国.

You must be able to:

- state what happened to empires in this period
- explain how imperial expansion facilitated trade
- state the CED's claim about transfers
- explain why 'making of the modern world' is a claim about connection

1 Worked examples

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

■ **Collapse and replacement**

Empires collapsed in different regions and **in some areas were replaced by new imperial states, including the Mongol khanates**. "In some areas" — not everywhere.

■ **Expansion and trade**

The expansion of empires — including the Mongols — facilitated Afro-Eurasian trade and communication **as new people were drawn into their conquerors' economies and trade networks**. The mechanism is incorporation.

■ **Transfers**

Interregional contacts **and conflicts** between states and empires, including the Mongols, encouraged significant technological and cultural transfers. Conflict is a channel of transfer, not only an interruption of it.

■ **The title**

The subtopic's title claims world-historical significance. The CED's grounds are not conquest as such but the connection conquest produced — a single political zone across Eurasia through which goods, techniques and ideas travelled.

2 Practice

2.1 State the mechanism by which imperial expansion facilitated trade. [2]

2.2 State what the CED includes alongside contacts as a channel of transfer. [2]

2.3 The subtopic claims world-historical significance.

(a) State the CED's grounds. [1]

(b) State what those grounds are not. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Empires collapsed and were replaced by new imperial states [1]

- **A** everywhere
- **B** in some areas
- **C** nowhere
- **D** only in Europe

3.2 The CED names as channels of transfer contacts and [1]

- **A** isolation
- **B** conflicts
- **C** treaties only
- **D** migration only

3.3 A technique known in one region is in use across Eurasia within a century.

(a) State what made this possible. [1]

(b) Explain why conquest can spread knowledge. [2]

Solutions

2.1 conquered peoples were drawn into their conquerors' economies and trade networks.

2.2 conflicts; the CED treats conflict as a channel of transfer, not only an interruption.

2.3 (a) the connection conquest produced across Eurasia. (b) conquest or destruction as such.

3.1 B. the CED qualifies it.

3.2 B. conflicts are named explicitly.

3.3 (a) a single political zone across Eurasia through which goods and techniques travelled. (b) conquest moves people — craftsmen, scribes, prisoners — between regions, and what they know moves with them.