

2.4 Trans-Saharan Trade Routes

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 13 marks**

KEY WORDS mali 马里帝国 • trans-saharan trade 跨撒哈拉贸易

Objective

Build the skills to explain **trans-Saharan trade** 跨撒哈拉贸易.

You must be able to:

- state the CED’s cause of trans-Saharan growth
- name the empire the CED gives and its effect
- explain why the route is an achievement of technology and organisation
- connect this subtopic to 1.5

1 Worked examples

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

■ The cause

The growth of interregional trade was encouraged by **innovations in existing transportation technologies**, and improved transportation and commercial practices increased volume and range, **including the trans-Saharan trade network**.

■ Mali

The expansion of empires — **including Mali in West Africa** — facilitated Afro-Eurasian trade and communication as new people were drawn into the economies and trade networks.

■ Why an achievement

Crossing a desert requires an animal that can do it, a route with water, and an organisation that can finance and protect the caravan. The CED’s ‘innovations in existing technologies’ covers all three.

■ Link to 1.5

1.5 said African state systems expanded in scope and reach. 2.4 shows one way that happened: an empire astride a trade route grows with the traffic it protects.

2 Practice

2.1 State the CED’s cause of trans-Saharan growth. [2]

2.2 State the effect of Mali’s expansion. [2]

2.3 Crossing a desert requires more than a route.

(a) Name three requirements. [3]

(b) State the link to 1.5. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The CED attributes the growth to innovations in [1]

- **A** entirely new technologies
- **B** existing transportation technologies
- **C** military technologies
- **D** agricultural technologies

3.2 Mali is located in [1]

- **A** East Africa
- **B** West Africa
- **C** North Africa
- **D** Southern Africa

3.3 An empire sits astride a trade route.

(a) State what it can supply. [1]

(b) Explain how this makes the empire and the route grow together. [2]

Solutions

2.1 innovations in existing transportation technologies, which increased volume and geographical range.

2.2 it facilitated Afro-Eurasian trade and communication as new people were drawn into the economies and trade networks.

2.3 (a) an animal able to cross; a route with water; an organisation able to finance and protect the caravan. (b) 1.5's claim that African state systems expanded in scope and reach.

3.1 B. existing technologies, improved.

3.2 B. the CED specifies West Africa.

3.3 (a) protection, water access and a market. (b) traffic makes the route valuable and the empire richer, and the richer empire can protect more traffic.