

8.5 Decolonization After 1900

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

Objective

Build the skills to compare **paths to independence** 独立的道路.

You must be able to:

- state the two routes to independence the CED names
- state what nationalist leaders sought
- explain what 'varying degrees of autonomy' allows
- state what regional, religious and ethnic movements challenged

1 Worked examples

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

■ Two routes

After the end of World War II, some colonies negotiated their independence, while others achieved independence through armed struggle. The CED gives both without ranking them.

■ What was sought

Nationalist leaders and parties in Asia and Africa sought varying degrees of autonomy within or independence from imperial rule. Not everyone sought full independence at the outset.

■ 'Varying degrees'

The demand is a spectrum: autonomy within an empire at one end, full independence at the other. An answer treating every movement as demanding the same thing has flattened it.

■ Two challenges

Regional, religious and ethnic movements challenged colonial rule and inherited imperial boundaries. The second is the harder one: a boundary drawn by an empire may not match any community, and independence does not settle that question.

2 Practice

2.1 State the two routes to independence. [2]

2.2 Explain what "varying degrees of autonomy" allows. [2]

2.3 Movements challenged two things.

(a) Name them. [2]

(b) State why the second is harder. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The CED presents negotiation and armed struggle as [1]

- **A** ranked, with one preferable
- **B** two routes, unranked
- **C** the same thing
- **D** unrelated to independence

3.2 Inherited imperial boundaries were challenged by [1]

- **A** regional, religious and ethnic movements
- **B** the United Nations only
- **C** nobody
- **D** the former colonisers

3.3 A colony becomes independent within the borders an empire drew.

(a) State what question remains open. [1]

(b) Explain why independence does not settle it.

[2]

4 Go further

- work through the **8.5 Decolonization After 1900** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Cold War and Decolonization** section of the AP World History handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 some colonies negotiated their independence; others achieved it through armed struggle.

2.2 the demand ranged from autonomy within an empire to full independence, so movements cannot be treated as demanding the same thing.

2.3 (a) colonial rule; inherited imperial boundaries. (b) a boundary drawn by an empire may not match any community.

3.1 B. both are given without ranking.

3.2 A. the CED's own list.

3.3 (a) whether the border matches the community it encloses. (b) independence transfers who governs without changing where the line was drawn.