

# 2.1 The Silk Roads

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ **Total: 13 marks**

**KEY WORDS** credit 信贷 • money economies 货币经济 • silk roads 丝绸之路  
• improved commercial practices 商业惯例的改进 • caravans 商队

## Objective

Build the skills to explain the **Silk Roads** 丝绸之路.

**You must be able to:**

- state the CED’s causal chain from practices to cities
- name the three commercial and transport innovations
- state which regions expanded production for export
- explain why the causes are commercial rather than political

## 1 Worked examples

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

### ■ The chain

Improved commercial practices led to an increased volume of trade and expanded the geographical range of existing trade routes — including the Silk Roads — **promoting the growth of powerful new trading cities**. Practice → volume → range → cities.

### ■ Three innovations

The caravanserai, forms of credit, and the development of money economies. Two are financial and only one is physical.

### ■ Production for export

Chinese, Persian and Indian artisans and merchants **expanded their production of textiles and porcelains for export**; manufacture of iron and steel expanded in China. Demand at one end changed production at the other.

### ■ Commercial causes

The CED’s causes are credit, money and lodging, not conquest. An answer explaining the Silk Roads by empire has substituted a different cause for the one given.

## 2 Practice

**2.1** State the CED’s causal chain in order. [3]

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**2.2** Name the three innovations and say which is physical. [2]

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**2.3** Demand in one region changed production in another.

(a) Name the goods and regions the CED gives. [2]

(b) State what this shows about trade routes. [1]

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## 3 Exam-style questions

**3.1** Two of the three named innovations are [1]

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** military  
**B** financial  
**C** agricultural  
**D** religious

**3.2** The CED says the expanded routes promoted the growth of [1]

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** powerful new trading cities  
**B** new religions  
**C** new empires only  
**D** nothing

**3.3** A merchant can deposit money in one city and draw it in another.

(a) Name the innovation. [1]

(b) Explain why it increases the volume of trade. [2]

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