

4.5 Maritime Empires Maintained and Developed

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 13 marks

KEY WORDS mercantilist 重商主义 • atlantic trading system 大西洋贸易体系

Objective

Build the skills to explain **mercantilism** 重商主义 and the Atlantic system.

You must be able to:

- state what mercantilist policies were used for
- explain what a joint-stock company did
- state the role of silver in global circulation
- state what the Atlantic trading system moved

1 Worked examples

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

■ Mercantilism

Mercantilist policies and practices were used by European rulers **to expand and control their economies and claim overseas territories**. Control is as much the point as expansion.

■ Joint-stock companies

Influenced by mercantilist principles, they were **used by rulers and merchants to finance exploration and used by rulers to compete against one another in global trade**. A financing device that is also an instrument of state rivalry.

■ Silver

The new global circulation of goods was facilitated by chartered European monopoly companies and **the global flow of silver, especially from Spanish colonies in the Americas, which was used to purchase Asian goods for the Atlantic markets and satisfy Chinese demand for silver**. American metal, Asian goods, European markets — one circuit.

■ The Atlantic system

It involved the movement of **goods, wealth and labour, including enslaved persons, and the mixing of African, American and European cultures and peoples, with all parties contributing to this cultural synthesis.** The CED also records demographic changes in Africa resulting from the trade of enslaved persons.

2 Practice

2.1 State what mercantilist policies were used for. [2]

2.2 State the role of silver in global circulation. [2]

2.3 The Atlantic trading system moved several things.

(a) Name them. [2]

(b) State what the CED says about cultural synthesis. [2]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Joint-stock companies were used to finance exploration and to [1]

A	B
C	D

A abolish trade

B compete against other rulers in global trade

C collect tribute in Asia

D replace monarchy

3.2 The silver the CED emphasises came especially from

[1]

A	B
C	D

A Spanish colonies in the Americas

B West Africa

C Japan only

D the Ottoman Empire

3.3 Metal from one continent buys goods from a second for markets on a third.

(a) State what this describes.

[1]

(b) Explain why it needed all three parts.

[2]
