

6.1 Rationales for Imperialism from 1750 to 1900

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

KEY WORDS civilising mission 文明教化使命 • social darwinism 社会达尔文主义
• justifications for imperialism 帝国主义的辩护 • economic imperialism 经济帝国主义
• raw materials 原材料

Objective

Build the skills to explain **justifications for imperialism** 帝国主义的辩护.

You must be able to:

- name the four ideologies the CED lists
- state the CED's careful verb about them
- distinguish a justification from a cause
- explain why studying a justification is not endorsing it

1 Worked examples

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

■ Four ideologies

A range of cultural, religious and racial ideologies were used to justify imperialism, including **Social Darwinism, nationalism, the concept of the civilising mission, and the desire to religiously convert indigenous populations.**

■ The verb

They **were used to justify.** The CED does not say they caused imperialism; it says they were the reasons given for it — which is a claim about rhetoric, and it is deliberate.

■ Justification and cause

A **cause** explains why something happened; a **justification** explains how it was defended. 6.4 and 6.5 supply economic causes; 6.1 supplies the language used about them.

■ Studying, not endorsing

Naming a justification accurately — including a racial one — is describing what was said. The historian’s task is to report the argument and then examine what it concealed.

2 Practice

2.1 Name the four ideologies the CED lists. [2]

2.2 Distinguish a justification from a cause. [2]

2.3 The CED says the ideologies “were used to justify”.

(a) State what this claim is about. [1]

(b) State where the economic causes are found. [2]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The concept of the civilising mission is [1]

A	B
C	D

A an economic cause

B a justification

C a technology

D a treaty

3.2 Social Darwinism belongs to the CED’s [1]

A	B
C	D

A cultural, religious and racial ideologies

B transport technologies

C labour systems

D migration patterns

3.3 A government explains a conquest as a duty to improve the conquered.

(a) State what kind of claim this is. [1]

(b) Explain what a historian should do with it. [2]
