

Ruling Beyond Conquest

Compare how empires gained power, held territory, and reshaped other states.

9.5b "Political states and empires employed a variety of techniques for expanding and maintaining control, and sometimes disrupted state-building in other regions."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline examples of expanding or maintaining control. Label them E or M; explain any example that fits both. Circle the political effect of the conquest of Baghdad.

Empires and Political Control

- ① The Abbasids overthrew the Umayyad caliphate in 750. In 762, Caliph al-Mansur founded Baghdad as a new capital near important routes. Abbasid rulers used armies and alliances to establish authority, while appointed governors collected taxes and enforced decisions in provinces. Arabic administration helped connect diverse peoples, although communities kept distinct languages and customs. Officials, revenue, and communication supported rule. Caliphal control changed over time, and some provincial rulers gained considerable independence.
- ② In the thirteenth century, Mongol leaders united steppe groups and conquered a vast empire using cavalry, discipline, and skilled commanders. They demanded tribute and sometimes left local rulers in place if they obeyed. Relay stations carried messages, officials counted households, and armies punished rebellion. In 1258, Hülegü's army captured Baghdad and ended Abbasid caliphal rule there. The attack killed many people and disrupted the city's political institutions. Mongol rule varied across regions, especially as separate khanates developed.
- ③ Both empires relied on more than victory in battle. Abbasid governors and tax collection connected provinces to central government. Mongol tribute demands, local agreements, and relay stations helped manage distant territories. These methods could overlap: an army might conquer a region and later suppress a revolt there. Imperial expansion could also destroy another ruler's authority. Comparing conquest with administration helps explain both how empires gained territory and how they tried to keep it.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did Abbasid rulers establish authority, and how did governors help maintain it?

2 Name one Mongol method of expansion and two methods the Mongols used to maintain authority over conquered peoples.

3 How did both the Abbasids and Mongols use systems beyond soldiers to manage large territories? Give one example for each empire.

4 What happened to Abbasid political authority in Baghdad after the Mongol conquest?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Invent a state that takes over a neighboring region. In four sentences, explain one expansion method, two methods for maintaining control, and a political effect on the conquered state.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline examples of expanding or maintaining control. Label them E or M; explain any example that fits both. Circle the political effect of the conquest of Baghdad. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Abbasid rulers establish authority, and how did governors help maintain it?	Rulers used armies and alliances. Governors collected taxes and enforced decisions in provinces.
2	Name one Mongol method of expansion and two methods the Mongols used to maintain authority over conquered peoples.	The Mongols used fast cavalry, discipline, and skilled commanders to conquer. They maintained authority through tribute, local rulers who obeyed them, relay stations, household counts, and punishment of rebellion.
3	How did both the Abbasids and Mongols use systems beyond soldiers to manage large territories? Give one example for each empire.	The Abbasids used governors and administrators, including tax collection and enforcement of decisions. The Mongols used systems such as tribute demands, relay stations, household counts, and obedient local rulers.
4	What happened to Abbasid political authority in Baghdad after the Mongol conquest?	Abbasid caliphal rule in Baghdad ended, and the city's political institutions were disrupted.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The River Crown uses soldiers to capture Hillvale's border fort. It appoints officials who report to the capital. It also collects a grain tax to pay guards. Hillvale's council loses control of the fort and its revenue, weakening its ability to govern.

Accept equivalent examples from the passage when students correctly distinguish expansion from maintaining control. For the open response, accept varied invented states if the response includes one expansion method, two control methods, and a clear political disruption to the neighboring state.