

**The response:**

- Thoroughly develops all aspects of the task evenly and in depth by discussing a central principle of Islam and Confucianism, how these belief systems spread to other regions, and an effect on a society to which each belief system spread
- Is more analytical than descriptive (*Islam*: Muslims demonstrate submission to Allah through Five Pillars; fasting from sunrise to sunset during Ramadan further emphasizes submission to the will of God; many years of conquering territory across northern Africa by the Umayyad Dynasty; by the 14th century in Niger River valley, Islam was an important force because it was tied to the trade of salt for gold across the Sahara; because Mali controlled gold mines, it became a powerful Islamic state; stimulated commerce and brought about a flourishing of Islamic culture; Muslim scholars made Timbuktu a center of Muslim learning; Islamic law used to maintain order; *Confucianism*: appeared in China near the end of the Zhou dynasty following era of warring states; the Analects discuss how, no matter what position a person holds, there are responsibilities at every level; a just ruler is owed loyalty by all subjects, but he owes them just rule; the father is head of the family and is owed the loyalty of the son; influenced social and political structure of China; nearness of Korean peninsula formed link between mainland China and the islands of Japan; rulers adapted Confucianism to Japanese conditions; giving everyone responsibilities paralleled what China was doing in creating roles for the good of society; filial piety influenced Japanese social life and family relationships)
- Richly supports the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details (*Islam*: one God, Muhammad is His messenger; Mecca, Islam's most sacred city; Hajj; founded in 622 by Muhammad in present-day Saudi Arabia; Mansa Musa; pilgrimage; built numerous mosques and schools; *Confucianism*: China had much influence on Japan; travelled overland through Korea then by sea to Japan largely by trade and foreign missions; Japan trying to centralize its government; ensured loyalty to the state; use of Chinese writing system)
- Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme

**Conclusion:** The response fits the criteria for Level 5. Good use of detail and analysis characterize strong theme development throughout the response. The response effectively demonstrates that the diffusion of Islam in West Africa and Confucianism in Japan created societal unity by establishing expected social and political behaviors.