

# **PERIOD 6: Accelerating Global Change and Realignments**

**c. 1900 to the PRESENT**

## Key Concept 6.1

Rapid advances in science altered the understanding of the universe and the natural world and led to the development of new technologies. These changes enabled unprecedented population growth, which altered how humans interacted with the environment and disrupted ecological balances at local, regional, and global levels.

## Key Concept 6.2

At the beginning of the 20th century, a European-dominated global political order existed, which also included the United States, Russia, and Japan. Over the course of the century, peoples and states around the world challenged this order in ways that sought to redistribute power within the existing order and to restructure empires, while those peoples and states in power attempted to maintain the status quo. Other peoples and states sought to overturn the political order itself. These challenges to, and the attempts to maintain, the political order manifested themselves in an unprecedented level of conflict with high human casualties. In the context of these conflicts, many regimes in both older and newer states struggled with maintaining political stability and were challenged by internal and external factors, including ethnic and religious conflicts, secessionist movements, territorial partitions, economic dependency, and the legacies of colonialism.

## Key Concept 6.3

The 20th century witnessed a great deal of warfare and the collapse of the global economy in the 1930s. In response to these challenges, the role of the state in domestic economies fluctuated, and new institutions of global governance emerged and continued to develop throughout the century. Scientific breakthroughs, new technologies, increasing levels of integration, changing relationships between humans and the environment, and the frequency of political conflict all contributed to global developments in which people crafted new understandings of society, culture, and historical interpretations. Institutions of global governance both shaped and adapted to these social conditions.

**Related Thematic Learning Objectives**  
(Focus of Exam Questions)

**Key Concept 6.1** — Rapid advances in science and technology altered the understanding of the universe and the natural world and led to advances in communication, transportation, industry, agriculture, and medicine.

**ENV-2** Explain how environmental factors, disease, and technology affected patterns of human migration and settlement over time.

**ENV-3** Evaluate the extent to which migration, population, and urbanization affected the environment over time.

**ENV-4** Explain how environmental factors have shaped the development of diverse technologies, industrialization, transportation methods, and exchange and communication networks.

**ENV-5** Evaluate the extent to which the development of diverse technologies, industrialization, transportation methods, and exchange and communication networks have affected the environment over time.

**CUL-3** Explain how cross-cultural interactions resulted in the diffusion of culture, technologies, and scientific knowledge.

**CUL-4** Explain how technological and scientific innovations affected religions, belief systems, philosophies, and ideologies over time.

**ECON-2** Explain the causes and effects of economic strategies of different types of communities, states, and empires.

**ECON-7** Explain how local, regional, and global economic systems and exchange networks have influenced and impacted each other over time.

I. Researchers made rapid advances in science that spread throughout the world, assisted by the development of new technology.

A. New modes of communication—including the Internet, radio communication, and cellular communication—and transportation reduced the problem of geographic distance.

B. The Green Revolution and commercial agriculture increased productivity and sustained the earth’s growing population as it spread chemically and genetically modified forms of agriculture.

C. Medical innovations, such as vaccines and antibiotics, increased the ability of humans to survive and live longer lives.

D. Energy technologies, including the use of petroleum and nuclear power, raised productivity and increased the production of material goods.

**Period 6**  
**Key Concept 6.1**

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**SB-3** Explain how and why economic, social, cultural, and geographical factors have influenced the processes of state building, expansion, and dissolution.

**ECON-1** Explain how technology shaped economic production and globalization over time.

**Key Concept 6.1** — Rapid advances in science and technology altered the understanding of the universe and the natural world and led to advances in communication, transportation, industry, agriculture, and medicine.

**II.** During a period of unprecedented global population expansion, humans fundamentally changed their interactions with the environment.

**A.** As human activity contributed to deforestation, desertification, and increased consumption of the world's supply of fresh water and clean air, humans competed over these and other resources more intensely than ever before.

**B.** The release of greenhouse gases and other pollutants into the atmosphere contributed to debates about the nature and causes of climate change.

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**SB-3** Explain how and why economic, social, cultural, and geographical factors have influenced the processes of state building, expansion, and dissolution.

**SB-6** Explain the political and economic interactions between states and non-state actors over time.

**SOC-5** Explain how social categories, roles, and practices have been maintained or challenged over time.

**III. Disease, scientific innovations, and conflict led to demographic shifts.**

**A.** Diseases associated with poverty persisted, while other diseases emerged as new epidemics and threats to human survival. In addition, increased longevity led to a higher incidence of certain diseases.

Illustrative examples, diseases associated with poverty:

- ♦ Malaria
- ♦ Tuberculosis
- ♦ Cholera

Illustrative examples, emergent epidemic diseases:

- ♦ The 1918 influenza pandemic
- ♦ Ebola
- ♦ HIV/AIDS

Illustrative examples, diseases associated with changing lifestyles:

- ♦ Diabetes
- ♦ Heart disease
- ♦ Alzheimer’s disease

**B.** More effective forms of birth control gave women greater control over fertility and transformed sexual practices.

**C.** New military technology and new tactics and the waging of “total war” led to increased levels of wartime casualties.

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**SB-2** Explain how and why different functions and institutions of governance have changed over time.

**SB-3** Explain how and why economic, social, cultural, and geographical factors have influenced the processes of state building, expansion, and dissolution.

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**ECON-1** Explain how technology shaped economic production and globalization over time.

**Key Concept 6.2** — Peoples and states around the world challenged the existing political and social order in varying ways, leading to unprecedented worldwide conflicts.

**I.** Europe dominated the global political order at the beginning of the 20th century, but both land-based and transoceanic empires gave way to new states by the century's end.

**A.** The older, land-based Ottoman, Russian, and Qing empires collapsed due to a combination of internal and external factors.

**B.** Between the two world wars, European imperial states often maintained control over their colonies and in some cases gained additional territories.

**C.** After the end of World War II, some colonies negotiated their independence, while other colonies achieved independence through armed struggle.

Illustrative examples, negotiated independence:

- ♦ India from the British Empire
- ♦ The Gold Coast from the British Empire
- ♦ French West Africa

Illustrative examples, independence through armed struggle:

- ♦ Algeria and Vietnam from the French Empire
- ♦ Angola from the Portuguese Empire
- ♦ Kenya from the British Empire
- ♦ The Mau Mau rebellion against the British Empire

**Period 6**  
**Key Concept 6.2**

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**Related Thematic Learning Objectives**  
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- CUL-1** Explain how religions, belief systems, philosophies, and ideologies originated, developed, and spread as a result of expanding communication and exchange networks.
- CUL-2** Explain how religions, belief systems, philosophies, and ideologies affected political, economic, and social developments over time.
- CUL-6** Explain how expanding exchange networks shaped the emergence of various forms of transregional culture, including music, literature, and visual art.
- SB-1** Explain how different forms of governance have been constructed and maintained over time.
- SB-2** Explain how and why different functions and institutions of governance have changed over time.
- SB-3** Explain how and why economic, social, cultural, and geographical factors have influenced the processes of state building, expansion, and dissolution.
- SB-4** Explain how and why internal and external political factors have influenced the process of state building, expansion, and dissolution.
- SB-6** Explain the political and economic interactions between states and non-state actors over time.

**Key Concept 6.2** — Peoples and states around the world challenged the existing political and social order in varying ways, leading to unprecedented worldwide conflicts.

- II.** Emerging ideologies of anti-imperialism contributed to the dissolution of empires and the restructuring of states.
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- A.** Nationalist leaders and parties in Asia and Africa sought varying degrees of autonomy within or independence from imperial rule. Illustrative examples, nationalist leaders and parties:
- ♦ Indian National Congress
  - ♦ Ho Chi Minh in French Indochina (Vietnam)
  - ♦ Kwame Nkrumah in British Gold Coast (Ghana)
- 
- B.** Regional, religious, and ethnic movements challenged both colonial rule and inherited imperial boundaries. Illustrative examples, regional, religious, and ethnic movements:
- ♦ The Muslim League in British India
  - ♦ The Québécois separatist movement in Canada
  - ♦ The Biafra secessionist movement in Nigeria
- 
- C.** Transnational movements sought to unite people across national boundaries. Illustrative examples, transnational movements:
- ♦ Communism
  - ♦ Pan-Arabism
  - ♦ Pan-Africanism
- 
- D.** The Mexican Revolution arose in opposition to neocolonialism and economic imperialism, and movements to redistribute land and resources developed within states in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, sometimes advocating communism or socialism.
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- E.** In many parts of the world, religious movements sought to redefine the relationship between the individual and the state.

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**ECON-4** Explain the causes and effects of labor reform movements.

**ECON-6** Explain how economic systems and the development of ideologies, values, and institutions have influenced each other.

**SOC-1** Evaluate the extent to which distinctions based on kinship, ethnicity, class, gender, and race influenced the origins, development, and transformations of social hierarchies.

**SOC-2** Evaluate the extent to which different ideologies, philosophies, and religions affected social hierarchies.

**SOC-3** Evaluate the extent to which legal systems, colonialism, nationalism, and independence movements have sustained or challenged class, gender, and racial hierarchies over time.

**SOC-5** Explain how social categories, status, roles, and practices have been maintained or challenged over time.

**SOC-6** Explain how political, economic, cultural, and demographic factors have affected social structures over time.

**Period 6**  
**Key Concept 6.2**

**Key Concept 6.2** — Peoples and states around the world challenged the existing political and social order in varying ways, leading to unprecedented worldwide conflicts.

II. Emerging ideologies of anti-imperialism contributed to the dissolution of empires and the restructuring of states.

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**SB-3** Explain how and why economic, social, cultural, and geographical factors have influenced the processes of state building, expansion, and dissolution.

**SB-4** Explain how and why internal and external political factors have influenced the process of state building, expansion, and dissolution.

**SB-6** Explain the political and economic interactions between states and non-state actors over time.

**ECON-3** Explain how different modes and locations of production and commerce have developed and changed over time.

**SOC-6** Explain how political, economic, cultural, and demographic factors have affected social structures over time.

**Key Concept 6.2** — Peoples and states around the world challenged the existing political and social order in varying ways, leading to unprecedented worldwide conflicts.

**III.** Political changes were accompanied by major demographic and social consequences.

**A.** The redrawing of old colonial boundaries led to conflict as well as population displacement and/or resettlements, such as the partitioning of India and Pakistan and population displacements following the creation of the state of Israel.

**B.** The migration of former colonial subjects to imperial metropolises (the former colonizing country, usually in the major cities) maintained cultural and economic ties between the colony and the metropole even after the dissolution of empires.

**C.** The rise of extremist groups in power led to the annihilation of specific populations, notably in the Holocaust during World War II, and to other atrocities, acts of genocide, or ethnic violence.

Illustrative examples, migrations:

- ♦ South Asians to Britain
- ♦ Algerians to France
- ♦ Filipinos to the United States

Illustrative examples, genocide or ethnic violence:

- ♦ Armenians in Turkey during and after World War I
- ♦ Cambodia during the late 1970s
- ♦ Tutsi in Rwanda in the 1990s

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**CUL-1** Explain how religions, belief systems, philosophies, and ideologies originated, developed, and spread as a result of expanding communication and exchange networks.

**CUL-5** Explain how the arts are shaped by and reflect innovation, adaptation, and creativity of specific societies over time.

**SB-1** Explain how different forms of governance have been constructed and maintained over time.

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**Key Concept 6.2**

**Key Concept 6.2** — Peoples and states around the world challenged the existing political and social order in varying ways, leading to unprecedented worldwide conflicts.

**IV.** Military conflicts occurred on an unprecedented global scale.

**A.** World War I and World War II were the first total wars. Governments used a variety of strategies, including political propaganda, art, media, and intensified forms of nationalism, to mobilize populations (both in the home countries and the colonies or former colonies) for the purpose of waging war. Governments used ideologies, including fascism and communism, to mobilize all of their state's resources for war and, in the case of totalitarian states, to direct many aspects of daily life during the course of the conflicts and beyond.

**B.** The sources of global conflict in the first half of the century varied and included imperialist expansion by European powers and Japan, competition for resources, the economic crisis engendered by the Great Depression, and the rise of fascist and totalitarian regimes to positions of power.

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**ECON-2** Explain the causes and effects of economic strategies of different types of communities, states, and empires.

**ECON-3** Explain how different modes and locations of production and commerce have developed and changed over time.

**ECON-6** Explain how economic systems and the development of ideologies, values, and institutions have influenced each other.

**SOC-3** Evaluate the extent to which legal systems, colonialism, nationalism, and independence movements have sustained or challenged class, gender, and racial hierarchies over time.

**SOC-6** Explain how political, economic, cultural, and demographic factors have affected social structures over time.

**Key Concept 6.2** — Peoples and states around the world challenged the existing political and social order in varying ways, leading to unprecedented worldwide conflicts.

IV. Military conflicts occurred on an unprecedented global scale.

(CONTINUED)

**C.** The global balance of economic and political power shifted after the end of World War II and rapidly evolved into the Cold War. The democracy of the United States and the communist Soviet Union emerged as superpowers, which led to ideological conflict and a power struggle between capitalism and communism across the globe. This conflict extended beyond its basic ideological origins to have profound effects on economic, political, social, and cultural aspects of global events.

**D.** The Cold War produced new military alliances, including NATO and the Warsaw Pact, and promoted proxy wars between and within postcolonial states in Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

**E.** Expansions in U.S. military spending and technological development, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and economic weakness in communist countries led to the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Period 6  
Key Concept 6.2

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**SB-6** Explain the political and economic interactions between states and non-state actors over time.

**Key Concept 6.2** — Peoples and states around the world challenged the existing political and social order in varying ways, leading to unprecedented worldwide conflicts.

**V.** Although conflict dominated much of the 20th century, many individuals and groups—including states—opposed this trend. Some individuals and groups, however, intensified the conflicts.

**A.** Groups and individuals challenged the many wars of the century, and some, such as Mohandas Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr., and Nelson Mandela, promoted the practice of nonviolence as a way to bring about political change.

**B.** Groups and individuals, including the Non-Aligned Movement, opposed and promoted alternatives to the existing economic, political, and social orders.

**C.** Militaries and militarized states often responded to the proliferation of conflicts in ways that further intensified conflict.

**D.** Some movements used violence against civilians to achieve political aims.

Illustrative examples, groups and individuals opposing or promoting alternatives:

- ♦ The Anti-Apartheid Movement in South Africa
- ♦ Participants in the global uprisings of 1968
- ♦ The Tiananmen Square protesters that promoted democracy in China

Illustrative examples, responses that intensified conflict:

- ♦ Military dictatorship in Chile, Spain, and Uganda
- ♦ The buildup of the military-industrial complex and weapons trading

Illustrative examples, movements that used violence:

- ♦ IRA
- ♦ ETA
- ♦ Al-Qaeda

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**ECON-2** Explain the causes and effects of economic strategies of different types of communities, states, and empires.

**SOC-1** Evaluate the extent to which distinctions based on kinship, ethnicity, class, gender, and race influenced the origins, development, and transformations of social hierarchies.

**SOC-2** Evaluate the extent to which different ideologies, philosophies, and religions affected social hierarchies.

**SOC-3** Evaluate the extent to which legal systems, colonialism, nationalism, and independence movements have sustained or challenged class, gender, and racial hierarchies over time.

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**ECON-1** Explain how technology shaped economic production and globalization over time.

**ECON-2** Explain the causes and effects of economic strategies of different types of communities, states, and empires.

**Key Concept 6.3** — The role of the state in the domestic economy varied, and new institutions of global association emerged and continued to develop throughout the century.

**I.** States responded in a variety of ways to the economic challenges of the 20th century.

**A.** In communist states, such as the Soviet Union and China, governments controlled their national economies, often through repressive policies and with negative repercussions for their populations.

Illustrative examples, communist governments controlling their national economies:

- ♦ The Five Year Plans
- ♦ The Great Leap Forward

**B.** Following World War I and the onset of the Great Depression, governments began to take a more active role in economic life.

Illustrative examples, government intervention in the economy:

- ♦ The New Deal
- ♦ The fascist corporatist economy
- ♦ Popularist governments of Brazil and Mexico

**C.** In newly independent states after World War II, governments often took on a strong role in guiding economic life to promote development.

Illustrative examples, governments guiding economic life:

- ♦ Nasser’s promotion of economic development in Egypt
- ♦ Nehru’s planned economy in India
- ♦ Julius Nyerere in Tanzania

**D.** In a trend accelerated by the end of the Cold War, many governments encouraged free-market economic policies and promoted economic liberalization in the late 20th century.

Illustrative examples, governments encouraging free-market policies:

- ♦ The United States beginning with Ronald Reagan
- ♦ Britain under Margaret Thatcher
- ♦ China under Deng Xiaoping
- ♦ Chile under Pinochet
- ♦ Pacific Rim nations
- ♦ Korea
- ♦ Vietnam

Period 6  
Key Concept 6.3

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**ECON-3** Explain how different modes and locations of production and commerce have developed and changed over time.

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**Key Concept 6.3** — The role of the state in the domestic economy varied, and new institutions of global association emerged and continued to develop throughout the century.

I. States responded in a variety of ways to the economic challenges of the 20th century.

(CONTINUED)

**E.** In the late 20th century, revolutions in information and communications technology led to the growth of knowledge economies in some regions, while industrial production and manufacturing were increasingly situated in developing economies including the Pacific Rim and Latin America.

Illustrative examples, Pacific Rim economies

- ♦ Japan
- ♦ Korea
- ♦ Singapore
- ♦ China
- ♦ Vietnam

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**Key Concept 6.3** — The role of the state in the domestic economy varied, and new institutions of global association emerged and continued to develop throughout the century.

**II.** States, communities, and individuals became increasingly interdependent—a process facilitated by the growth of institutions of global governance.

**A.** New international organizations formed to maintain world peace and to facilitate international cooperation.

Illustrative examples, new international organizations:

- ♦ The League of Nations
- ♦ The United Nations
- ♦ The International Criminal Court

**B.** Changing economic institutions and regional trade agreements reflected the spread of principles and practices associated with free-market economics throughout the world.

Illustrative examples, changing economic institutions:

- ♦ The International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- ♦ The World Bank
- ♦ The World Trade Organization (WTO)
- ♦ Multinational corporations (MNC)

Illustrative examples, regional trade agreements:

- ♦ The European Economic Community (EEC)
- ♦ North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
- ♦ Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- ♦ Mercosur

**C.** Movements throughout the world protested the inequality of the environmental and economic consequences of global integration.

Illustrative examples, protest movements:

- ♦ Greenpeace
- ♦ The Green Belt Movement in Kenya
- ♦ Earth Day

**Period 6**  
**Key Concept 6.3**

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**SB-5** Explain how societies with states and state-less societies interacted over time.

**SB-6** Explain the political and economic interactions between states and non-state actors over time.

**ECON-1** Explain how technology shaped economic production and globalization over time.

**ECON-2** Explain the causes and effects of economic strategies of different types of communities, states, and empires.

**ECON-3** Explain how different modes and locations of production and commerce have developed and changed over time.

**ECON-6** Explain how economic systems and the development of ideologies, values, and institutions have influenced each other.

**ECON-7** Explain how local, regional, and global economic systems and exchange networks have influenced and impacted each other over time.

**SOC-5** Explain how social categories, status, roles, and practices have been maintained or challenged over time.

**Key Concept 6.3** — The role of the state in the domestic economy varied, and new institutions of global association emerged and continued to develop throughout the century.

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**SOC-1** Explain how distinctions based on kinship, ethnicity, class, gender, and race influenced the development and transformations of social hierarchies.

**Key Concept 6.3** — The role of the state in the domestic economy varied, and new institutions of global association emerged and continued to develop throughout the century.

**III.** People conceptualized society and culture in new ways; rights-based discourses challenged old assumptions about race, class, gender, and religion. In much of the world, access to education, as well as participation in new political and professional roles, became more inclusive in terms of these factors.

Illustrative examples, challenges to assumptions about race, class, gender, and religion:

- ♦ The U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights especially as it sought to protect the rights of children, women, and refugees
- ♦ Global feminism movements
- ♦ Negritude movement
- ♦ Liberation theology in Latin America
- ♦ Islamic renewal movements in Egypt and Saudi Arabia

Illustrative examples, increased access to education and political and professional roles:

- ♦ The right to vote and to hold public office granted to women in the United States (1920), Brazil (1932), Turkey (1934), Japan (1945), India (1947), and Morocco (1963)
- ♦ The rising rate of female literacy and the increasing numbers of women in higher education, in most parts of the world
- ♦ The U.S. Civil Rights Act of 1965
- ♦ The end of apartheid
- ♦ Caste and reservation in the Indian Constitution of 1950

**Period 6**  
**Key Concept 6.3**

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TEACHER-SELECTED EXAMPLES OF  
HISTORICAL INDIVIDUALS, EVENTS, TOPICS, OR  
SOURCES FOR STUDENTS TO EXAMINE IN DEPTH

**Related Thematic Learning Objectives**  
(Focus of Exam Questions)

**SOC-2** Evaluate the extent to which different ideologies, philosophies, and religions affected social hierarchies.

**SOC-5** Explain how social categories, roles, and practices have been maintained or challenged over time.

**Key Concept 6.3** — The role of the state in the domestic economy varied, and new institutions of global association emerged and continued to develop throughout the century.

III. People conceptualized society and culture in new ways; rights-based discourses challenged old assumptions about race, class, gender, and religion. In much of the world, access to education, as well as participation in new political and professional roles, became more inclusive in terms of these factors.

(CONTINUED)

**Period 6**  
**Key Concept 6.3**

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**Related Thematic Learning Objectives**  
(Focus of Exam Questions)

**CUL-5** Explain how the arts are shaped by and reflect innovation, adaptation, and creativity of specific societies over time.

**CUL-6** Explain how expanding exchange networks shaped the emergence of various forms of transregional culture, including music, literature, and visual art.

**ECON-1** Explain how technology shaped economic production and globalization over time.

**ECON-3** Explain how different modes and locations of production and commerce have developed and changed over time.

**Key Concept 6.3** — The role of the state in the domestic economy varied, and new institutions of global association emerged and continued to develop throughout the century.

**IV.** Political and social changes of the 20th century led to changes in the arts and literature. In the second half of the century, popular and consumer culture became more global.

Illustrative examples, global culture:

- ♦ Reggae
- ♦ Bollywood
- ♦ World Cup soccer
- ♦ The Olympics

**Period 6**  
**Key Concept 6.3**

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