

# POSNACK

S C H O O L

AP Human Geography

Basic Concepts: Key Issue 1

*How Do Geographers Describe Where Things Are?*

Rubenstein, pp. 5-13

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● **MAPS**

1. Define **map**:

2. Define **cartography**:

3. Give two examples of early mapmaking and its (unusual?) materials for the maps.

(a)

(b)

4. Who was the first to use the term “geography.”

5. Provide an example of developments in geography for each of the following:

Chinese	
Muslims	
Age of Discovery (16 <sup>th</sup> Century)	

6. Define **scale**:

7. What is the advantage of a map which shows only a small portion of the earth’s surface – like a neighborhood - that is, a **large-scale map**?

8. What advantage does a map which shows the entire globe, a **small-scale map**, have?

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9. When geographers convert the round earth to a flat map, they use a **projection**. All projections have some distortion (only a globe has none). List the four things that typically become distorted in various projections.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

10. Two important projections are the **Mercator** and the **Robinson**. Complete the table below to compare their advantages and disadvantages.

	ROBINSON	MERCATOR
Advantages		
Disadvantages		

● GEOGRAPHIC GRID

11. Define **meridian** and **longitude**. What is the **prime meridian** and where does it pass through?

12. Define **parallel** and **latitude**.

13. Explain the location of the **equator**, North Pole, and South Pole.

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14. What role does longitude play in telling time? Define and explain **Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)** and **the International Date Line**.

15. How many degrees of longitude do you need to travel across to pass through one “hour” of time (or one time zone)?

16. How many time zones are there?

● **CONTEMPORARY TOOLS**

17. Define **remote sensing**:

18. List several things that geographers can map using remotely sensed data.

19. Complete the following regarding a **Global Positioning System**.

G P S	
Elements/components...	Uses/implementation...

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20. Geographers use a **GIS** (Geographic Information System) to store “layers” of data. Give three examples of types of data stored in a single layer.

Basic Concepts: Key Issue 2

### *Why Is Each Point On Earth Unique?*

Rubenstein, pp. 14-19

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#### ● PLACE: UNIQUE LOCATION OF A FEATURE

1. Define **toponym**:

2. Identify four ways in which places can receive names

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)

3. Define **site**:

4. List some **site characteristics**.

5. Complete the following sentence about *site*:

*Human actions have the ability to \_\_\_\_\_ the characteristics of a site.*

6. Define **situation**:

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7. What role do familiar places have understanding **situation** of unfamiliar places?

8. How does **situation** help us understand the importance of a location?

● **REGIONS: AREAS OF UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS**

9. A **region** is “An \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ defined by one or more \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_” according to the textbook.

10. Define **cultural landscape**.

11. Explain the quote by Carl Sauer: “Culture is the agent, the natural area the medium, the cultural landscape is the result.”

12. One contemporary (current) approach to studying the cultural landscape is called the **regional studies approach**. What do geographers who adopt this view believe regarding regions?

13. Complete the chart below which details **types of regions** identified by geographers.

	FORMAL REGION	FUNCTIONAL REGION	VERNACULAR REGION
also called			
definition			
example			

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14. Define and prepare a bullet chart about the word **culture**. Include elements of what people care about and what people take care of.

15. How does a geographer conclude that two (or more) phenomena are “**spatially associated**,” that is, that they bear some sort of cause and effect relationship?

Basic Concepts: Key Issue 3

*Why Are Different Places Similar?*

Rubenstein, pp. 20-29

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● **SCALE: FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL**

1. Define **globalization**:

2. Define **housing bubble**. Explain how the first global financial crisis began.

3. Define **transnational corporation**. Explain how globalization has led to more specialization at the local level.

4. In what ways is globalization of culture manifest in the landscape?

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5. In what ways has the **communications revolution** played a role in globalization?

### ● SPACE: DISTRIBUTION OF FEATURES

6. Define **space**. Why is spatial thinking the most fundamental skill that geographers possess to understand the arrangement of objects across Earth?

7. The \_\_\_\_\_ of a feature in \_\_\_\_\_ is known as its **distribution**.

8. Define **density**:

9. The way in which a feature is spread over space is known as **concentration**. Identify and explain the opposite ends of the spectrum (the two different kinds) of concentration?

a.

b.

c. In the boxes below – draw 10 dots in each so that the density is the same in each, but illustrate and label the two *different kinds* of concentration.

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10. Define **pattern**.

11. Explain **behavioral geography**. How does it differ from **humanistic geography**?

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12. What role does **gender** play in geography and how people move across space?

13. In what way do each of the following play a role in geography?

ETHNICITY	SEXUAL ORIENTATION

## ● CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PLACES

14. **Diffusion** is defined as the process by which a characteristic spreads across space. With regard to diffusion, define and, where possible, give an example of each of the following.

DIFFUSION	
<i>hearth</i>	
<i>relocation diffusion</i>	
<i>Expansion diffusion</i>	<i>hierarchical diffusion</i>

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	<i>contagious diffusion</i>	
	<i>stimulus diffusion</i>	

15. Describe the phenomenon known as *distance-decay*.

16. What is *space-time compression*?

17. In the past, most interaction between places required what? How has this changed?

18. Identify where 3/4s of the world's population and nearly all of its population growth are located.

19. Define *uneven development*.

20. What are the main differences between countries in the core regions and those in the periphery?

Basic Concepts: Key Issue 4

*Why Are Some Human Actions Not Sustainable?*

Rubenstein, pp. 30-37

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## ● Sustainability and Resources

1. Define *resource*. Explain the difference between a *renewable resource* and a *nonrenewable resource*.

2. Define *sustainability*. Identify examples that contribute to a more sustainable future.

3. Explain each of the three pillars of sustainability.

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4. Define **conservation** and **preservation** and explain how they differ.

5. Discuss the criticisms of sustainability.

6. Define **biotic** and **abiotic**. Identify and explain the **biotic** and **abiotic** systems of the Earth.

7. How many major types of **climates** do geographers identify? Name each.

8. In what major way does climate influence human activities? (Give an example.)

● **Sustainability and Human-Environment Relationships**

9. Very carefully define and explain the following terms:

A. **Cultural Ecology**

B. **Environmental Determinism**

C. **Possibilism**

10. Complete two case studies which describe human modifications of and adaptation to the local environment. To do so, annotate the blank maps and bullet in brief notes to the right of each.

A) **THE NETHERLANDS** – Define **polder**.

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**B) FLORIDA**

