

UNIT 3: Cultural Practices and Processes



3.1 Introduction to Culture

Culture

 Culture is the specialized behavioral social patterns, understandings, adaptations, and social systems that summarize a group of people's learned way of life.



• Culture tells us how to cooperate among groups of people and how to survive as a species.



 Culture is defined as a body of learned behaviors shared by individuals within a society.

 It is made up of shared values, norms, and beliefs as well as material objects such as tools, automobiles, televisions, shoes, and anything else that is made by humans.

What makes up Culture?

- Language
- Food
- Clothing
- Environmental Factors
- Entertainment
- Architecture
- Symbols of National Pride
- Religion
- Sports
- Anything that sets one culture apart from another





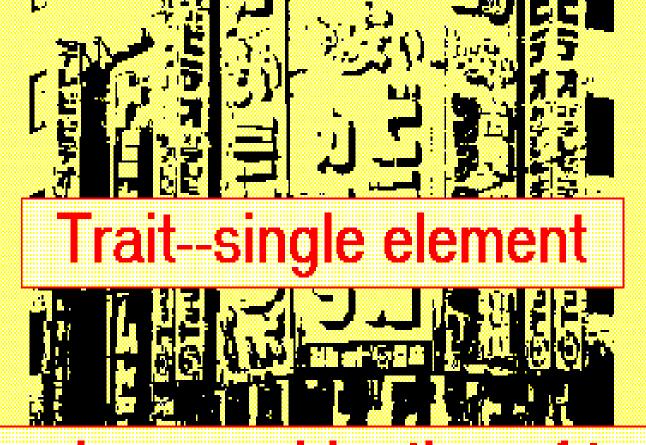
Cultural Traits

- Smallest item of culture-building block of culture.
- Learned behavior ranging from language spoken to tools to games.
- They can be objects, techniques, beliefs, or attitudes.

Cultural Complex

- Individual cultural traits that are functionally interrelated.
- Examples include: religious complexes, business behavior complexes, sports complexes.
- <u>https://www.youtube.co</u> <u>m/watch?v=fgEMvRrOCR</u>
 <u>l</u>





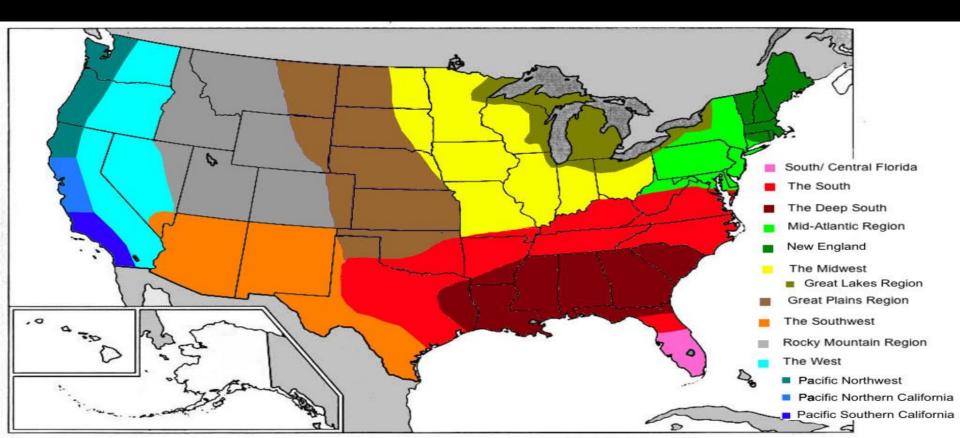
<u>Complex-combination of traits</u>



Cultural Regions

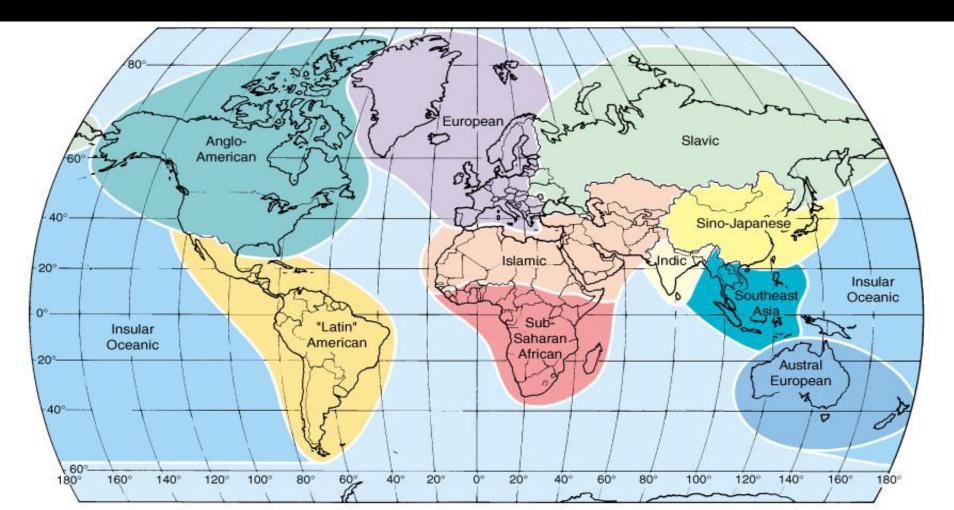
An area that shares similar cultural traits and complexes.

• Examples - Cajun Region

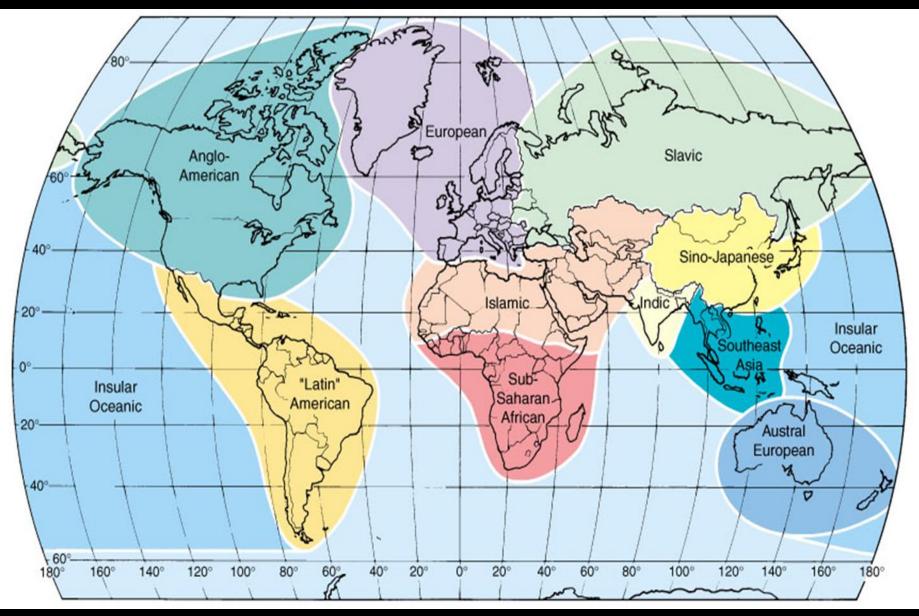


Culture Realms

 Cultural regions showing similar complexes and landscapes grouped to form a larger area. AP Human Geography recognizes 10 major realms.



Cultural Realms



Cultural Realms

- Sub-Saharan Africa
- Southeast Asia
- Austral European
- Insular Oceanic
- Latin American
- Anglo American
- Sino Japanese
- Indic
- Islamic
- Slavic
- European

Ultimate Guide - Culturegram

- A culturegram provides details of each country's customs, traditions, and daily life, ranging from attitudes, greetings, and gestures to the arts, recreation, daily diet, and more.
- You may choose any culture.
- Your culturegram should include the following;
 - Identify the culture and provide basic geographical information – where is the culture predominant, what cultural realm is it within, how much has the culture diffused and to where?
 - Describe and explain the culture using the concepts of cultural traits and complexes.
 - 2 pages total



3.4 Types of Diffusion

Diffusion

 The process of dissemination, the spread of an idea or innovation from its hearth to other areas.

Cultural Hearth

• The source or place of origin of a major culture. An area where cultural traits develop and from which cultural traits diffuse.

Two Types of Diffusion

- Relocation Diffusion
- Expansion Diffusion

Relocation Diffusion: When a cultural group moves and establishes its culture in a new location.

 Expansion Diffusion: An idea or innovation spreads outward from the hearth

- Three types of Expansion Diffusion
 - Contagious
 - Hierarchical
 - Stimulus

Contagious Diffusion

- The spreading of an idea, innovation, or good through a population by person to person contact.
- Idea spreads evenly outward from the hearth

 Like a wave.

Hierarchical Diffusion

- Occurs when an idea, innovation or good spreads by passing first among the most connected places or people.
- Spread of ideas first to ruler, king or highest authority and than downward to those in lesser positions.
- Modern world it often involves an urban hierarchy.



• Reverse Hierarchical Diffusion: The spread of a phenomenon up the hierarchy.

- From small rural communities to larger cities
- From groups without power to those with more power and connections.

Stimulus Diffusion

Occurs when a cultural ADAPTATION occurs as a result of the introduction of a cultural trait from another place.

The idea/concept "stimulates" a similar, but modified version of the original trait.



Ultimate Guide: Diffusion

Find a real world example for each type of diffusion

- Relocation
- Expansion
- Contagious
- Hierarchical
- Reverse Hierarchical
- Stimulus

Write one paragraph describing and explaining the diffusion of each cultural phenomenon

- What is the phenomenon?
- Where is its hearth?
- When did it diffuse?
- How did it diffuse?
- Where did it diffuse?
- One paragraph per type of diffusion 6 paragraphs total

Quick Thought – How has globalization effected cultural diffusion?

• What type of diffusion would occur over the internet/social media?

Popular Culture:

Popular culture or pop culture is the entirety of ideas, perspectives, attitudes, images, and other phenomena that are within the mainstream of a given culture.

Heavily influenced by mass media.



Pop culture is homogeneous, but diffuses across wide-ranging group of heterogeneous people.

Pop culture changes frequently and is ubiquitous (everywhere) on the cultural landscape.



Diffusion of Pop Culture

- Diffuses rapidly through hierarchical diffusion.
- Pop culture tends to have a known originator.
- Pop culture flourishes where people have higher incomes to and the leisure time to make use of them.

The Internet and Diffusion

- U.S. has a disproportionately large share of the Internet hosts.
- Internet rapidly and effectively diffuses pop culture to nearly every inhabited place on the planet.

Music and Pop Culture

 Pop music is written by specific individuals for the purpose of being sold to a large number of people.



Pop Culture and Food

- Food preferences in pop culture depend on high income and national advertising.
- Is usually not sourced locally. Produced by corporations.



• Folk culture: the culture traditionally practiced primarily by small, homogenous groups living in isolated rural areas.



Folk culture is clustered and isolated

- Isolation promotes cultural diversity (diverse from the larger dominant society, not within the folk culture itself) as a group's unique customs develop over several centuries.
- Folk culture varies widely from place to place at one time.



Blood Initiation

<u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7hQEJIaci</u>
 <u>RM</u>

- Crocodile Ritual
- <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wc9dGK8</u>
 <u>ketg&list=PLFC71766EE52571AE</u>

- A social custom originates at a hearth, a center of innovation.
- Folk customs tend to have anonymous sources, from unknown dates, through multiple hearths

 Folk customs tend to diffuse slowly and then, primarily through physical relocation of individuals.



- Folk culture deals with the lives and habits of its people.
- Physical environment in which the people act has a tremendous impact on the culture.



Appalachia

<u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVDKSK2J</u>
 <u>Ps</u>

FOLK MUSIC

-Folk music tells stories or conveys information about daily activities.

 Original source is often anonymous or unknown

Is not intended for sale or distribution

Tuvan Throat Singing - Mongolia

<u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DY1pcEtHI</u>
 <u>w</u>

• Cajun - Zydeco

<u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-gJdS4IIUsA</u>

FOLK FOOD

- People living in folk culture are likely to be farmers growing their own food, using hand tools and/or animal power.
- Local food preferences are a large part of the folk customs of that region.

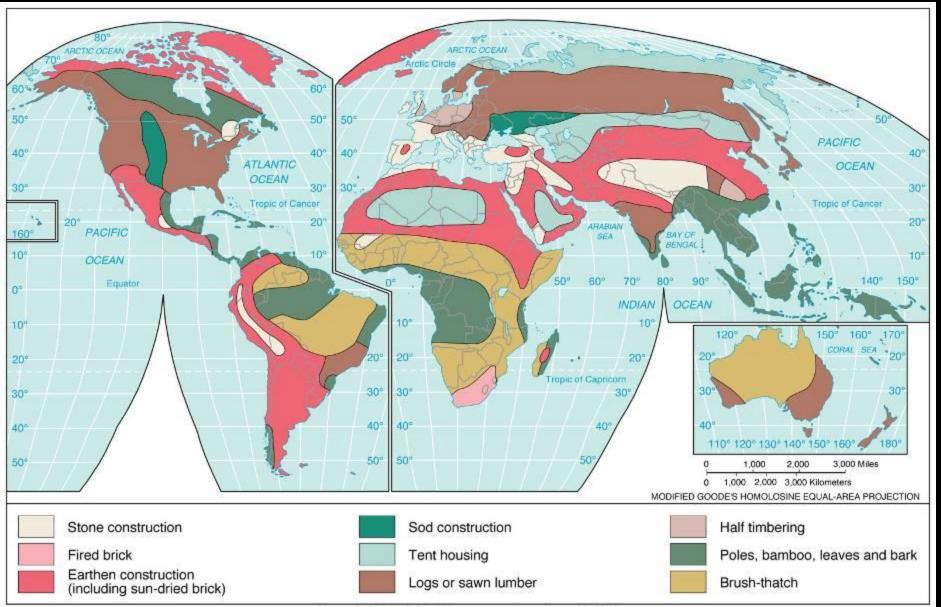


Cambodia - Tarantulas

<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZkhpRfqsI</u> <u>0</u>

 Ant Chutney: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hz7L_DK</u> <u>NDBE</u>
 • Religious, social, or economic factors often determine the type and amount of food consumed in a given region.

FOLK ARCHITECTURE



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Dwellings: historically created from local materials: wood, brick, stone, skins; often uniquely and traditionally arranged; always functionally tied to physical environment.



• Local traditions, as well as environmental factors determine the type of house that is built in a region.



• Effects on Landscape usually of limited scale and scope.



Folk Culture

- Stable and close knit
- Usually a rural community
- Tradition controls
- Resistance to change
- Buildings erected without architect or blueprint using locally available building materials
- Anonymous origins, diffuses slowly through migration. Develops over time.
- Clustered distributions: isolation/lack of interaction breed uniqueness and ties to physical environment.



Ultimate Guide – Folk Culture

Choose one of the following American Folk Cultures

- Amish
- Appalachian
- Hutterites
- Cajun
- Lakota Sioux

Write 2 pages describing and explaining the folk culture. Include the following in your guide:

- Where the folk culture is located
- Describe the environment / climate and how it has influenced the culture
- Describe traditional foods and food culture
- Describe traditional housing and architecture
- Describe traditional music and entertainment
- Explain how the culture has diffused (if at all).
- Explain how the culture has been impacted by globalization and the rapid spread of pop culture.



3.2 Cultural Landscapes

Cultural Realms

- Sub-Saharan Africa
- Southeast Asia
- Austral European
- Insular Oceanic
- Latin American
- Anglo American
- Sino Japanese
- Indic
- Islamic
- Slavic
- European

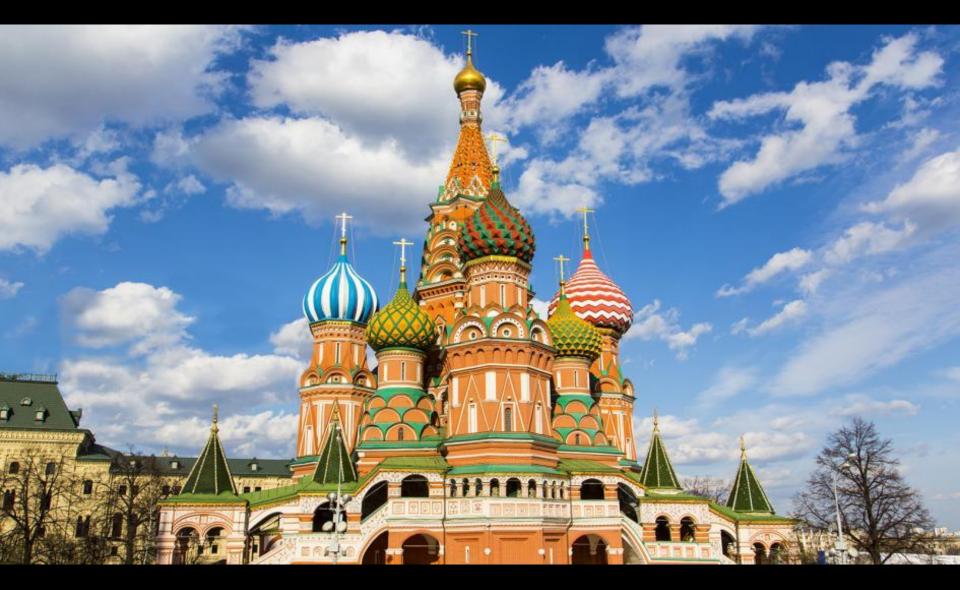
 Cultural Landscape: The interactions of a group in relation to their own cultural practices as well as the values of society as reflected through artifacts and architecture.

It is the imprint of the culture on the landscape

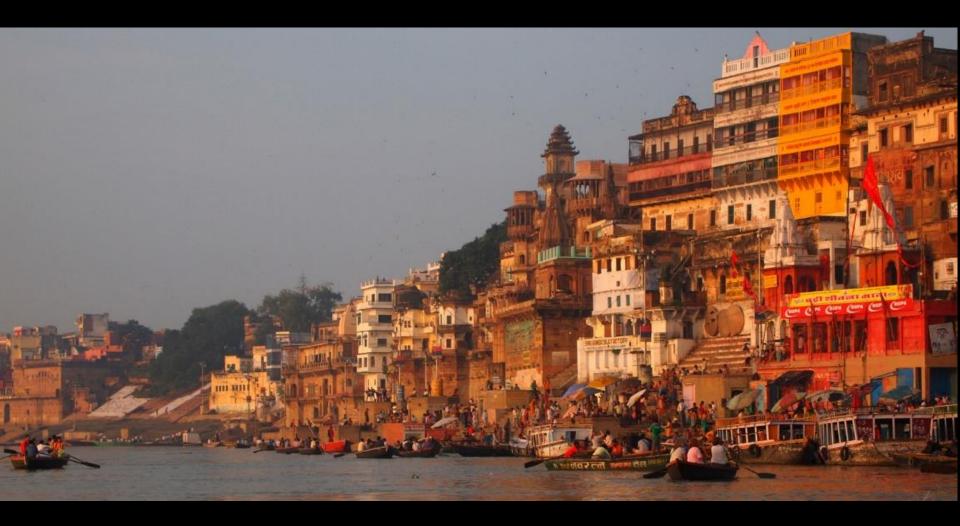
Reading Cultural Landscapes

- Look for clues
 - Language
 - Architecture
 - Religion
 - Architecture
 - Symbols
 - Ethnicity
 - Dress
 - National Symbols
 - Environment















Ethnic Enclave: A cluster or small area occupied by a distinctive minority culture. An enclave is maintained because the minority chooses to preserve the cluster. Often an entry point for new immigrants.



Borders and Barriers

• Cultural borders are often difficult to define.

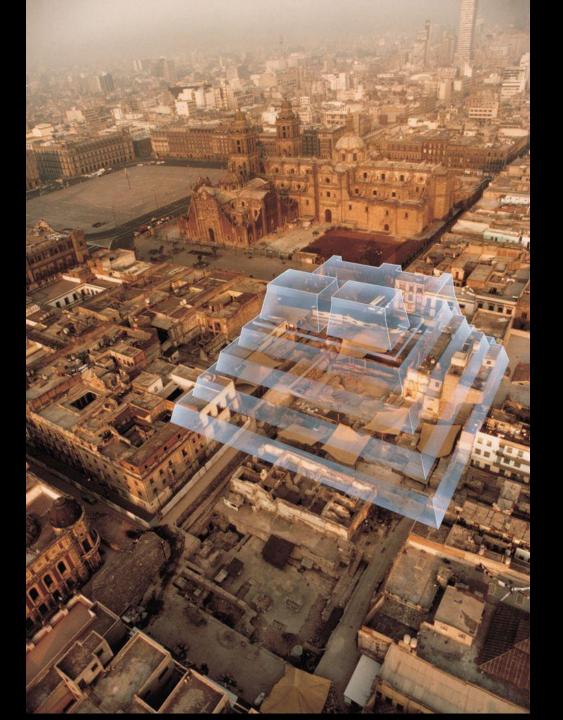
• Transition zones exist where the cultures mix and the people exhibit traits of both cultures.

 Example – Many people who live in El Paso Texas are fluent in both Spanish and English.

Sequent Occupance

 The notion that successive societies leave their cultural imprints on a place, each contributing to the cumulative cultural landscape.





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Traditional Architecture

 Characterized by the use of local materials and knowledge. Usually without the services of professional architects. Typically simple and practical.

Post Modern Architecture

 Uses older, historical styles and a sense of lightheartedness and eclecticism. Combine pleasant looking forms and playful colors to create more people friendly spaces than modernist architecture.









3.3 Cultural Patterns

- Globalization of Culture: Increasingly elements of pop culture diffuse quickly through the media, particularly the internet, and are adopted globally.
- People around the world now wear similar clothes, listen to similar music, and eat similar foods.

Problems with the Globalization of Culture

A. Can Destroy Folk Culture – or preserves traditions as museum pieces or tourism gimmicks.

- Mexican Mariachis; Polynesian Navigators; Cruise Line Simulations
- Change in Traditional Roles and Values; Polynesian weight problems



Satellite Television, Baja California

B. Accelerated Resource Use in Consumer Societies:

- Aggressive consumerism evident in most Western Media, including hip hop and rock and roll.
- Inefficient over-consumption of Meats, Poultry, and Fish by meat-eating pop cultures
- New larger housing desires and associated energy and water use.

C. Pollution:

• Increased waste and toxins from fuel use, discarded products, plastics, marketing and packaging materials, etc.







Placelessness: The loss of uniqueness of place in the cultural landscape. Everyplace looks the same.



Dubai's Indoor Ski Resort



 Popular culture creates a disconnect with the environment. Places are not tied to the landscape.



Muslim Women in Traditional Dress at Indoor Ski Resort



Beijing, China



Palm Springs, CA

Marlboro Man in Egypt



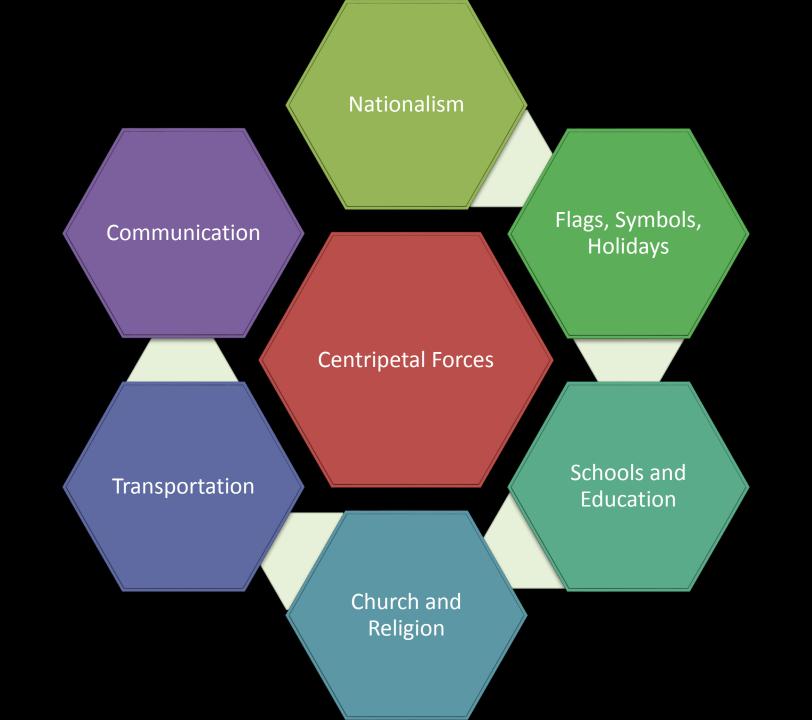
Benefits of Economic and Cultural Globalization

- Increased economic opportunity
- Higher standards of living
- Increased consumer choice
- More political freedom
- More social freedom

Ultimate Guide: Globalization of Popular Culture

• A. Describe and explain three advantages of the globalization of culture. Include two specific real world examples. (1 page)

 B. Describe and explain three disadvantages of the globalization of culture. Include two specific real world examples. (1 page) Centripetal Forces: The forces within a state that unify the people.



Centrifugal Forces: Forces within a state that divide the people.





3.5 Historical Causes of Diffusion

 Colonialism: Colonialism resulted in widespread relocation diffusion as European cultures established new settlements.

Imperialism: The process of imperialism imposed European culture on native populations. Native cultures were forced to adopt European religions, languages, and customs.

 Trade: Historically trade between cultures has resulted in an exchange of cultural traits and customs. Creolization: As a result of colonization there was a mixing of native American, West African and European cultures in the New World. This mixing resulted in the emergence of creole cultures.

Lingua Franca: A language or mixture of languages used as communication by people whose native languages are different. Creates a common language for everyone to use.

- Increase in communication furthers the diffusion of culture.
- English is often considered the world's lingua franca.

Ethnocentrism: Belief in the superiority of one's own ethnic group.



 Cultural Relativism: The idea that a person's beliefs, values, and practices should be understood based on that person's own culture, rather than judged against the criteria of another.

• Universalism: The idea that human rights are universal and should apply to every human.

DEBATE TOPIC

 In 2010 the French government enacted a ban on wearing full face veils in public. The law makes it illegal for Muslim women to wear traditional head coverings such as the burga or nigab.

Several European countries have imposed similar bans.

Should the French government be able to ban a traditional cultural practice?

Ultimate Guide - Universalism v. Cultural Relativism

- 1. Describe and explain cultural relativism 2 paragraphs.
- 2. Describe and explain universalism 2 paragraphs.
- 1. Prepare your argument
 - Identify three main arguments to support your position
 - Write a one page persuasive essay in support of your position.



3.4 Contemporary Causes of Diffusion

 Urbanization: Large urban areas bring together a multitude of cultures and increase interactions between cultures. Globalization and Time-Space Compression: As a result of the Industrial Revolution, improvements in transportation and communication have shortened the time required for movement, trade of other forms of interaction between two places.

• Has greatly accelerated cultural change around the globe.

Time Space Compression Example

Time to Ship Goods from Cincinnati Ohio to New York City	
1817	52 days by horse drawn wagon
1850	26 days by canal and railroad
1852	7 days by railroad
Today	2 hours by air

 Cultural Convergence: Occurs when two cultures adopt each others traits and become more alike. Cultural Divergence: Occurs when two cultures become increasingly different. Often happens when one group moves away from the other.

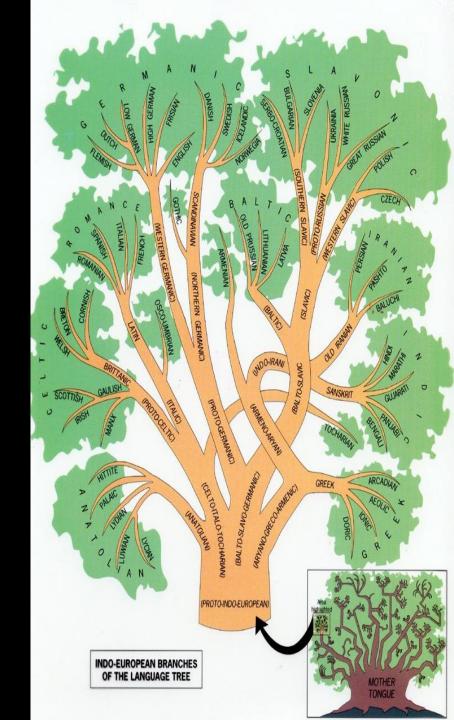




3.5 Diffusion of Religion and Language

The Language Tree

- Visual depiction used to explain and map the connections between languages.
- Based on theory that all languages derived from a common ancestral language – the mother tongue.



Proto-Tongue

- Language developed nearly 2.5 million years ago
- All original speakers communicated in the prototongue or original language
- As speakers diffused through migration, language divergence occurred and new languages and dialects spawned from the proto-language

 Language Family: A collection of individual languages with a common ancient ancestor.

Indo European Language Family:

- One of the 15 major language families.
- Large group of languages that all descended from a language spoken 6,000 years ago.
- Nearly half of the worlds population speaks one of the languages of the Indo European family.

Dialects: A regional variety of a language distinguished by pronunciation, spelling, and vocabulary.

A Dialect has its own grammar, vocabulary, syntax, and common expressions as well as pronunciation rules that make it unique from other dialects of the same language.

Pidgins: When people who speak two or more languages are in contact and they combine parts of their language in a simplified structure and vocabulary

- Is a second language for everyone who uses it
- Often used in business or work supervision
- Very simplified think 2 year old speech

Creole: Language that evolves when a pidgin becomes the first language of a group of speakers.

- May lose their mother tongue from disuse
- More complex grammatical structure and enhanced vocabulary
- Think 4-5 year old speech

- Us two bin get hard time raising dog
- The two of us had a hard time raising dogs

- John them stay cockroach the kaukua
- John and his friends are stealing the food

- More better I bin go Honolulu for buy om
- It would have been better if I'd gone to Honolulu to buy it

- Mo pe aste sa banan
- I am buying the banana
- French based Seychelles Creole

- A waka go a wosu
- He walked home
- English based Cape York Creole

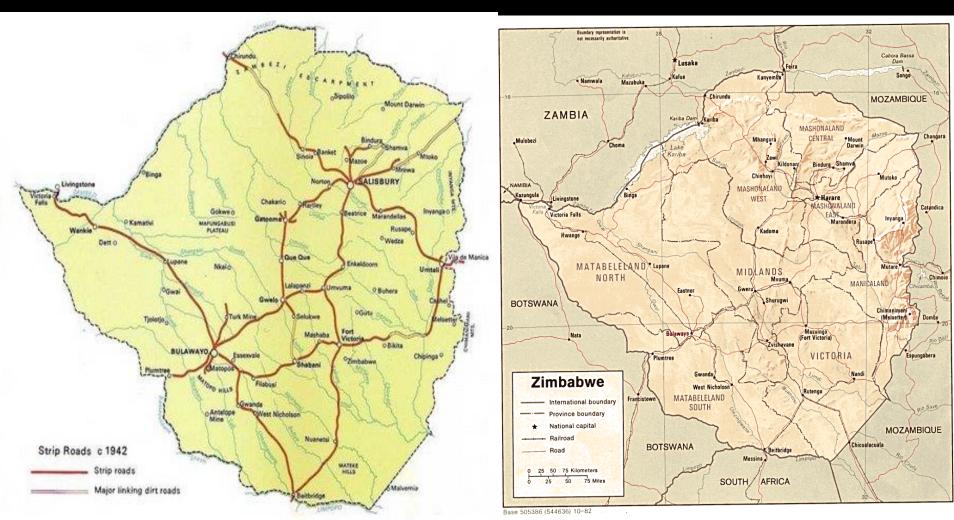
- Ja fruher wir blieben
- Yes, at first we remained
- German based Papua New Guinea Pidgin

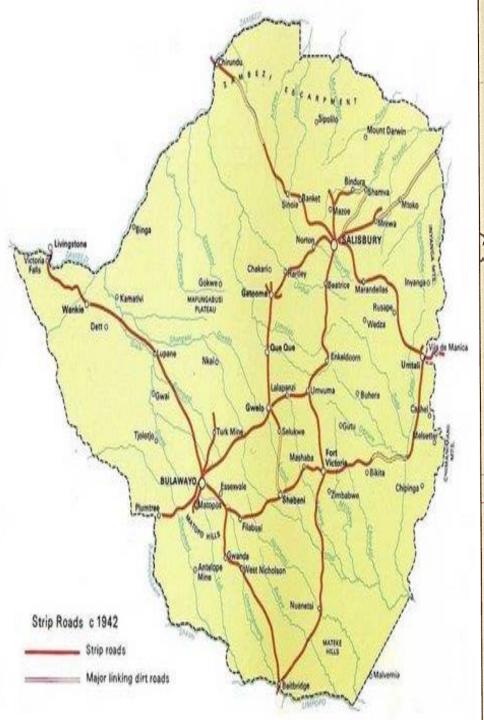
Toponyms

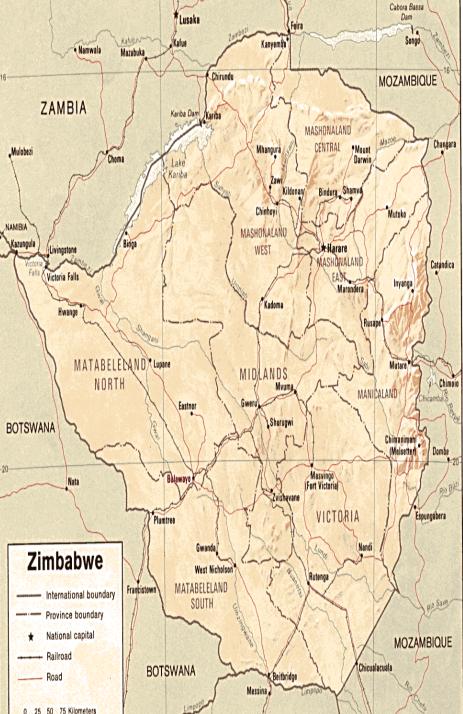
- The names of places.
- Study of toponyms can give you insight into immigration patterns, colonial influence, religion, language and cultural diffusion.
 - "burg" = city German roots
 - Hamburg City in Germany
 - Pittsburgh City in United States

Postcolonial Toponyms

 After colonies became independent countries they often changed place names.







Post Revolution Toponyms: Place names changed after a revolution.

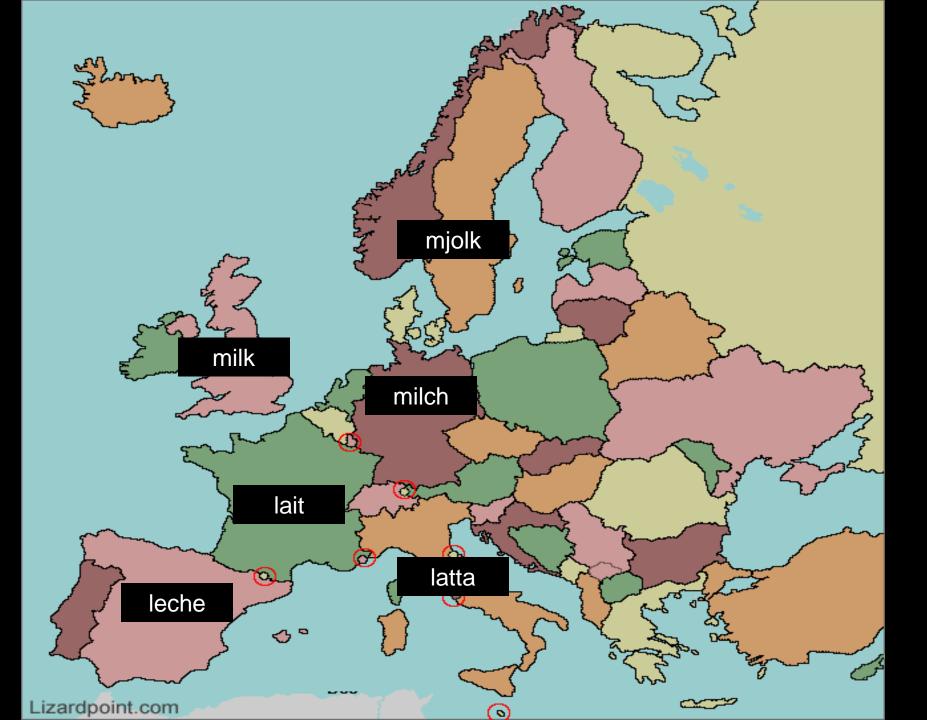
 St Petersburg was changed to Leningrad after the Russian Revolution and has now been changed back after the fall of communism Memorial Toponyms: Change in place name to memorialize an important person or event.

Official Language: Language adopted by the government. Usually selected by elite and becomes the language of courts and government.

Sound Shifts: Slight change in a word across languages over time. Used to find linkages among languages. Reverse Deconstruction: Process to trace the path of a languages diffusion.

Tracks sound shifts and the hardening of consonants backward to reveal an "original" language.

- Can deduce the vocabulary of an extinct language.
- Can recreate ancient languages (deep reconstruction)



Deep Reconstruction

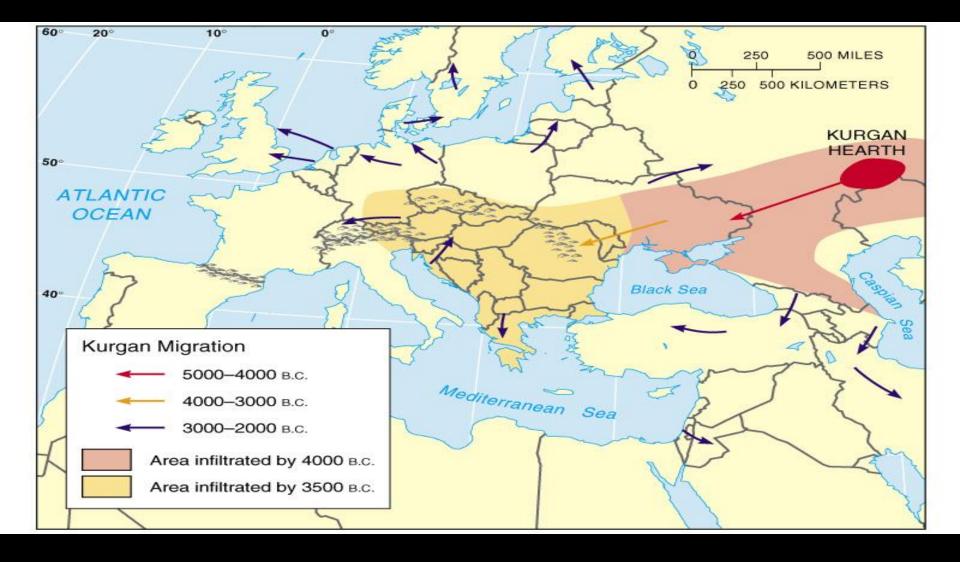
• An attempt to recreate an ancient language using reverse deconstruction.

 Technique using the vocabulary of an extinct language to recreate the language that proceeded the extinct language.

Conquest Theory

- Early speakers of PIE (proto-indo-european) spread from east to west on horseback
- Overpowered earlier inhabitants through warfare and technology
- Sound shifts show long period of divergence moving slowly west

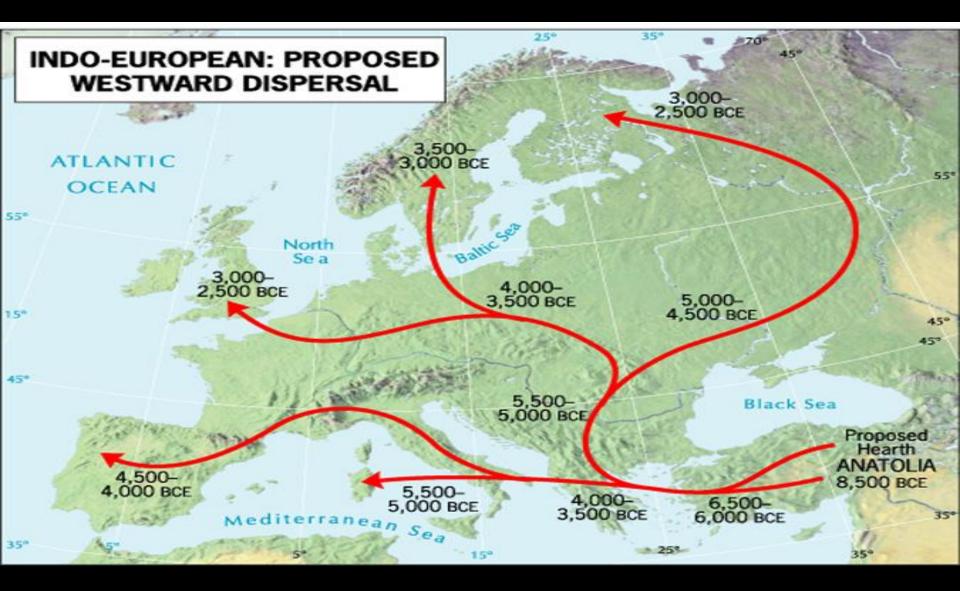
Hearth was Kurgan Empire (modern day Ukraine)



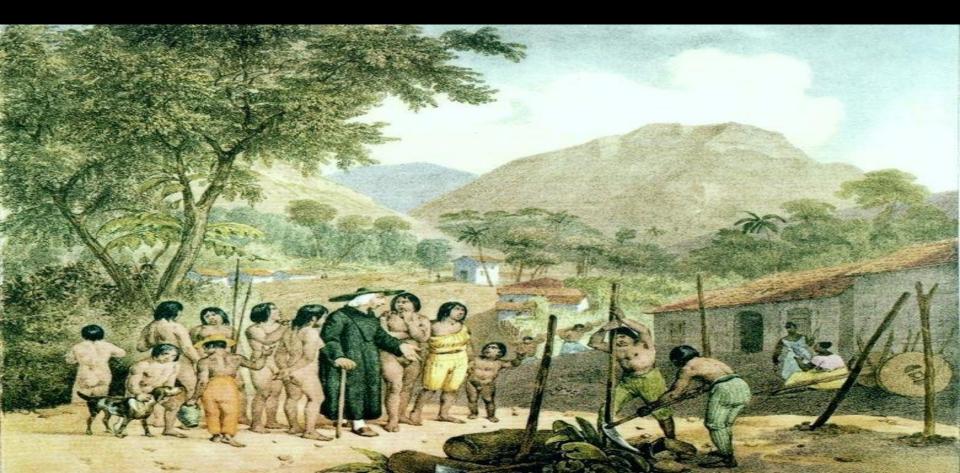
Dispersal or Agricultural Theory

- PIE diffused westward with the diffusion of agriculture / farming
- Farming innovation spread replaces hunting and gathering
- Farmers complete spread across Europe in about 1500 years
- Some non-farmers hold out and their languages do not change – example Euskera in the Basque region of Spain.
- Agricultural theory also known as Renfrew Hypothesis

Hearth was Anatolia Region (modern day Turkey)



Universalizing Religions: Religions that actively seek converts because members believe they offer belief systems of universal appropriateness and appeal.



Ethnic Religions: Religions whose adherents are born into the faith and whose members do not actively seek converts.

Usually appeals to a specific group (often ethnic groups) in a specific location.



Religion and the Landscape

 Religion has a major influence on how societies organize space (landscape).
 Influences how people think about both natural features and what people build.

The Physical Landscape

- Many specific natural places or features have religious significance.
- Some sites are considered sacred places
- Examples
 - Followers of Shinto view certain rocks and mountains as the homes of spirits.
 - Mt. Sinai is a sacred site for Jews, Christians and Muslims because they believe it is where God handed the ten commandment to Moses.

• Spread of Religion - YouTube

QUICK GUIDE – ID THREE

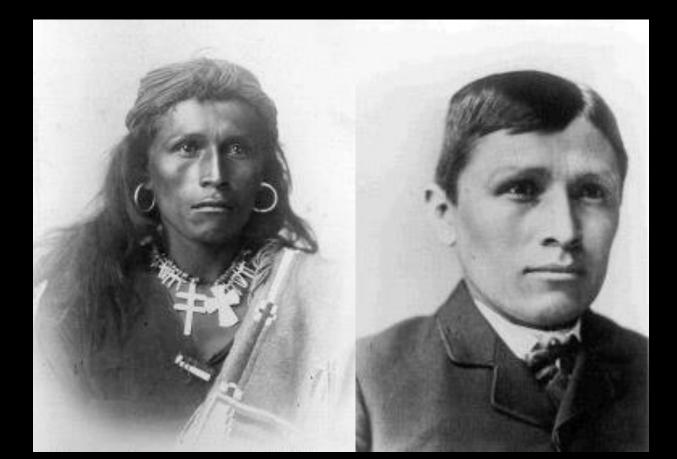
- Identify and briefly explain three major beliefs or practices for each of the major world religions
 - Islam
 - Judaism
 - Christianity
 - Hinduism
 - Buddhism



3.6 Effects of Diffusion

Acculturation

When an ethnic group moves to a new area and adopts the values and practices of the larger group, while still maintaining major elements of their own culture. Assimilation: Acculturation may lead to assimilation – when the original cultural traits of the culture are completely replaced by the dominant culture.



Syncretism

• When an aspect of two or more distinct cultures blend together to create aa ne custom, idea, practice or philosophy.

Multiculturalism

 The coexistence of several cultures in one society, with the ideal of all cultures being valued and worthy.

Nativism

 Anti-immigrant attitudes which form among the cultural majority, sometimes bringing violence or government action against the immigrant or minority group.

Q6 - Diffusion of Religion

- Summarize the diffusion of the five world religions
 - Identify the religions hearth
 - Describe and explain when, how and where it has diffused.
 - Clearly identify type of diffusion may be more than one type at different times)
 - 2 paragraphs for each religion
- Cultural Landscape for each of the five world religions find a photo or photos showing three different cultural landscape features unique to that religion. Label and identify each feature.
- Diffusion paragraphs + photos and cultural landscape identification = 1 page for each religion