Unit 1.2 Intro to Human Geography

Why Do Geographers Use Maps, and What Do Maps Tell Us?

___________ = the art and science of making maps. ___________ maps show locations of places and geographic features. ___________ maps tell stories, showing migrations or the degree of some attribute (e.g. votes cast, population density, amount of corn produced, etc.)

Using the Spatial Perspective

- The spatial analysis of geographers is best expressed with _______. Locations on the earth using latitude and longitude are called ___________ ___________, while the relationship of a place to other places on the map are called ___________ ___________.
- Chicago has great _______________ where the cross-country railroads met in the 1800s and due to its proximity to _______ and ___________ markets in the Midwest. Its relative location was greatly improved in 1959 with the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway.
- ___________ locations do not change, but ___________ locations are constantly modified and change over time.

Mental Maps

- ___________ (also called cognitive maps, or maps in your mind) are a fundamental part of our knowledge that we use constantly. Mental Maps of places within our ___________ are more accurate than places we have never been.
- All maps are _______________ because it is impossible to include every detail.

Remote Sensing & GIS

- _______________ = monitoring the Earth from a distance using satellites, airplanes, balloons, etc which produce data that is almost instantaneously available. ___________ is a web based set of ___________ ___________ that can easily be accessed by computer. This data can be studied over time revealing changes to the Earth.
- _______________ (GIS) = use computer technology to combine layers of ___________ data and create maps in which patterns and processes are superimposed to give insight and help problem solve relationships on the Earth. (E.g. Political geographers use GIS to layer maps showing voters, party registration, race, income, etc to draw voting districts.)
- ___________ = an emerging research field studying the use of geospatial concepts and techniques to examine geographic patterns and processes.

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Why are Geographers Concerned with Scale and Connectedness?

- __________ = distance on the map to distance on the Earth
- __________ = territorial extent of something (local, regional, national, international) Because the level of detail and patterns change as the _______ changes, geographers must be sensitive to their _______ of analysis and question research that generalizes about a people or place at a particular scale with out consideration at other scales.
- Victoria Lawson uses the term________________ to describe_______________ or taking a product global while retaining all rights to profit by it through intellectual property laws, negating other regional or local views.

Region

- __________ - serve as formal frames of reference, they have some spatial extent and share one or more common traits.
- __________ regions can be defined by cultural criteria, such as an area where French is spoken.
- __________ regions are the product of interactions such as a city and the surrounding region within which workers commute.
- __________ regions are harder to define and primarily in the minds of people.
- __________ analyzed telephone directories to identify "North America’s Vernacular Regions" coming up with ___ major perceptual regions.
- The South is a perceptual region that has been defined by many traits, including food, language, religion, and music, but perceptual regions are not _________. Images of the South are changing and the perceptions of the South will also change over time.
- Regions – formal, functional, or perceptual – are ways of _________________________.

Culture

- Cultures = music, literature, & art, but also styles of ________, routine living habits, ________ preferences, architecture, agricultural practices, education, government, and law. It is ________ __________ of the tangible lifestyle and prevailing ________ and ________.
- __________ = a single attribute of a culture (e.g. wearing a turban)
- __________ = a discrete combination of traits (e.g. the Masai of E. Africa herd cattle, and consume the blood and milk of the cattle as a part of their unique diet.)
- __________ = area where cultural traits develop and from which they __________ (e.g. Islam began in Mecca and diffused across SW Asia and N. Africa)
- ________________________ = term for trait with many hearths the developed independently

Connectedness through Diffusion

- __________ = the spread of an idea or innovation from its hearth to other places.
- ________________________(remember cultural landscape) looked at Agricultural Origins and Dispersals in which he defined the ancient _________ of agriculture and traced the __________ of agricultural practices from their hearths.
- In 1970 _________________________ research revealed how ________ and __________ affect individual behavior and the diffusion of people and ideas. The __________ a place is from the hearth, the ________ likely an innovation will be adopted.
- Time and distance cause _______________________ in the diffusion process.
What are Geographic Concepts, and How Are They Used in Answering Geographic Questions?

• Geographic research = thinking of a question with spatial or landscape components, choosing a technique of analysis, and applying it to one or more __________ & __________

• Geographers use ___________, ___________, ___________, ___________ & ___________ techniques to explore ___________ among ___________ & ___________.

• ___________ = belief that human behavior is strongly affected by (or controlled by) the ___________ environment. It suggests that ___________ is the critical factor.

• Reaction to ___________ produced counterarguments and an approach called ___________ emerged. This theory argues that the ___________ only ___________ the range of choices available to a culture. (Air conditioning overcame heat & mosquitoes!)

• Geographers increasingly ___________ the doctrine of ___________, while increasingly discredited ___________.

• Research today focuses on _____ & _____ humans alter the environment.

• ___________ = how cultures adapt to and alter the environment.

• ___________ = the environmental consequences of ___________ - ___________.

Human geographers are employed in such jobs as location analysts, urban planners, diplomats, remote sensing analysts, geographic information scientists, travel consultants, intelligence officers, cartographers, educators, park rangers, and environmental consultants.