Unit 9.1 Urban Geography

When & Why did people start living in cities?

The following information corresponds to Chapter 9 in your textbook. Fill in the blanks to complete the definition or sentence. Note: All of the following information in addition to your reading is important, not just the information in the blanks. p. 274 - 290

Field Note: Straddling the Wall

• In 1989 the people of ______ & ______ took control of their city starting toward a path of __________________ and change. Today, the city is no longer divided with an altered cultural landscape and __________ or layout of the city, in physical form and structure.

• Cities are the anchors of modern ____________, a center of politics, culture, and __________________. Globally, more people live in towns and cities today, making the global population predominantly ______________. In W. Europe, the USA, Canada, & Japan ____% of people live in cities & towns. In India & China, the figure is closer to _____%.

Ancient Civilizations, The First Urban Revolution

• ______________ societies – existed for millennia after agriculture was first introduced reflecting dwellings about the same size, with about the same number of possessions for all people which were shared in common.

• As villages grew & increased functional specialization occurred. ________________ & ________________ were necessary to enable the formation of early cities. Surplus and leadership lead to an urban ______________ who controlled the resources, and often the lives of others

• The five urban hearths, tied to the hearths of agriculture, are the ______________ Valley, the ______________ Valley, the ______________ Valley, the confluence of the ______________ and ______________ Valleys, and ______________ Valley.

The Role of Ancient Cities

• Ancient cities were the anchors of ______________ and ______________, the focal points of ______________, ______________, and ______________.

Ancient Cities

• ______________ - The first hearth of agriculture - its cities were usually protected by earthen ______, religious ______________ dominated the landscape (often built on mounds); the richest lived in ______________ buildings (palaces), whereas the ordinary citizens lived in ______-walled houses with only narrow lanes b/w the homes; there was no ______ disposal (dumped garbage in streets); disease kept the population small (10,000-15,000 max). Mesopotamian cities were political centers, ______________ centers (rulers were essentially god-kings), and educational centers – they were the anchors of culture & society.

• The Nile, Indus, and Huang He all were located in ______________, used for irrigation.

• ______ civilizations developed much later, around ______ BCE. They were ______________ centers, with great structures on the Yucatan, in Guatemala, and Honduras built by the ______.

• Ancient cities were not only centers of religion and power, but _______ and _______ centers.
Diffusion of Urbanization

- ___________ had a worldwide impact (e.g. affected Western Europe), every city had an ___________ (best structures built on high point of city; e.g. Parthenon); they also had an ___________ (“market”; public spaces built in the lower points of the city w/ steps – debated, lectured, socialized… later became commercial centers); most had excellent _________ (only affecting the rich primarily).
- Life was miserable for many - housing & sanitation was no better than in _________________; most of the grandeur designed by Greece’s urban planners was the work of hundreds of thousands of ________________.
- In ______, _______ networks linked urban places by road, river & sea, they used a _____________ grid pattern (Greek), had _________ (markets – Greek), _____________ (expanded from Greek theater & the first great stadium), the collapse of Rome coincided w/ the disintegration of its urban system & transportation networks (b/w 500 – 1,000 A.D)

Urban Growth after Greece and Rome

During the Middle Ages, little urban growth occurred and in some areas it went into sharp ___________. Urbanization continue in areas of ____________ in cities like ____________, which was a center of government, education, trade and religion.

Second Urban Revolution

- Gideon Sjoberg (1960) – said cities should be viewed as products of their societies & development; 1folk - preliterate, 2) feudal, 3) pre-industrial (may be inaccurate
  - industries did exist), 4) urban industrial; preliterate, feudal, & preindustrial cities were products as well as reflections of their cultures.

- __________ city – country’s largest city, most expressive of national culture, may be the capital (e.g. Paris, London, Tokyo…). Usually more than twice the size of the next largest city in a country.
- **Urban Banana** (pre – European colonization) – crescent-shaped urban zone across Eurasia (from England to Japan), cities developed along the ______ _____& spice trade routes, many cities are located along the interior (not the coasts).
- __________________ cities (e.g. Lisbon, Amsterdam, London, …) – maritime trade disrupted old trade routes & centers of power starting in the 1500s (from interior to coastal ports); central square became focus (“downtown”), these cities became nodes of a network of trade; brought huge riches to Europe.
- __________________ cities – grew out of the Ind. Rev. and the “Little Ice Age”; associated w/ mushrooming population, factories, tenement buildings, railroads,…; poor living & health conditions; cities improved w/ government intervention, city planning, zoning,…
- ____________ cities – transportation & road systems allow dispersal into suburbs, hallmark of American life;
- __________________ – architecture & design developed for look & commerce (disjointed from historical roots).