WORLD GEOGRAPHY MIDTERM STUDY GUIDE

Chapter 1

KEY TERMS

1. Location – specific place on earth
2. Absolute Location – exact spot at which a place is found on a globe
3. Hemisphere – divides the globe into 4 sections
4. Relative Location – to locate a place in relation to other places
5. Ecosystem – system formed by the interaction of a community of organisms
6. Cartography – study of mapmaking/maps

Places to Locate

* Equator
* North Pole
* South Pole
* Prime Meridian
* Continents (7)
* Oceans (4)
* Prime Meridian

Questions

* Is a city’s location to climate, landscape, and transportation important for humans? Why?
	+ Yes,
		- Climate – too hot/too cold, storms/hurricanes/tornados/tsunamis
		- Landscape – woods/snow/ice/animal presence/hilltops/cliffs/swamps
		- Transportation – work/friends/family/schools/attractions/hospital/ supermarket
* What are some ways humans affect the environment?
	+ Cutting down of trees/forests without replanting can damage the environment/ecosystem/habitats
	+ Hunting can damage the population of animals, disrupting the food chain drastically
	+ Polluting the environment can damage the living organisms and the ozone layer
* What are some ways the environment affects humans?
	+ Allergies from certain plants/trees
	+ Storms, hurricanes causing blackouts, trees falling on homes
	+ Earthquakes, meteor showers, tsunamis

Chapter 2

Key Terms:

1. Hydrosphere – all of the earth’s oceans, and all the water on earth: oceans, lakes, streams, etc. 70%
2. Lithosphere – earth’s crust, land that makes up part of earth, ocean basins. 30%
3. Atmosphere – blanket of gasses that surround the earth
4. Magma – molten rock
5. Plate Tectonics – refers to all activities which create many of earth’s physical features
6. Pangaea – all of the continents connected to each other hundreds of billions years ago; supercontinent
7. Weathering – process that breaks down rocks into smaller pieces
8. Erosion – wearing away of the earth’s surface
9. Water Cycle – the regular/cyclical movement of water
10. Evaporation – changing of liquid into a gas or vapor
11. Condensation – water that collects as droplets come together to form clouds
12. Precipitation – rain, snow, hail, or sleet depending on the temperature; when clouds gather more than they could hold they release moisture which falls to the earth

Places to Locate

* Pacific Ocean
* Atlantic Ocean
* Indian Ocean
* Arctic Ocean
* Ring of Fire

Essay Questions:

* What are the 4 major landforms
	+ Plateaus
	+ Plains
	+ Hills
	+ Mountains
* Stand-alone vs joined continents?
	+ Stand alone: Australia and Antarctica
	+ Joined: North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia
* 3 layers of the earth?
	+ Core
	+ Mantle
	+ Crust

Chapter 3

Key Terms:

1. Weather – the condition of the atmosphere in one place during a limited time
2. Climate – weather patterns an area typically experiences over a long period of time
3. Axis – imaginary line that run through the center of the earth between the poles
4. Temperature – measure of how hot or cold a place is
5. Revolution – one trip around the sun
6. Greenhouse Effect – when the atmosphere traps the sun’s heat and keeps some of it from escaping back into space, this keeps the earth warm and provides heat
7. Global Warming – the burning of fossil fuels and natural gases causing greenhouse gases to enter the atmosphere and trap more heat
8. Coniferous – trees that keep their foliage
9. Deciduous – trees that lose their foliage and change color

Places to Locate:

* Tropic of Cancer
* Tropic of Capricorn
* Equator
* Artic Circle
* Antarctic Circle
* Low Latitudes
* High Latitudes
* Mid-Latitudes

Essays:

* Rotation vs Revolution? How long dos each take?
	+ Rotation – earth turning from west to east, takes about 24 hours
	+ Revolution – trip around the sun, takes about 365 days plus a few hours
* Winter Solstice vs Summer Solstice
	+ Winter – shortest day of the year, begins December 21st
	+ Summer – longest day of the year, begins June 21st

Chapter 4

Key Terms:

1. Death Rate – number of the deaths per year per 1,000 people
2. Birthrate – number of births per year per 1,000 people
3. Doubling Time – years it takes for a population to double in size
4. Population Distribution – pattern of human settlements
5. Population Density – average number of people living on a square mile of land
6. Culture – way of life of a group of people who share similar beliefs and customs
7. Language Family – large groups of languages that have similar roots
8. Ethnic Group – people who share a common language, history, place of origin, or a combination of all these things
9. Culture Region – countries that have certain traits in common
10. Cultural Diffusion – process of spreading new knowledge and skills from one culture to another
11. Unitary System – government gives all key powers to the national government
12. Federal System – government divides the powers between national, state, and local governments
13. Autocracy – rule by one single individual
14. Oligarchy – rule by a few
15. Democracy – leaders rule with the consent of the citizens
16. Traditional Economy – habit and custom determine the rules for all economic activity
17. Market Economy – individuals and private groups who make decisions on what to produce and how much of it to produce
18. Mixed Economy - government supports and regulates free enterprises
19. Command Economy – government owns and directs means of production, controls distribution of goods

Essays:

* What impact did the following events have on human life: Agricultural Revolution, Industrial Revolution, Information Revolution
	+ Agricultural Revolution: shift from gather food to producing food
		- Impact: people can now settle down and plant food instead of chasing for it constantly
	+ Industrial Revolution: using machines to mass produce goods
		- Impact: people are not doing work by hand, instead using machines; work is done faster; more pollution into the air, land, and water; takes jobs away from humans
	+ Information Revolution: invention and use of computers which stores mass amount of information and can send information all over the world instantly
		- Impact: easier to communicate with people all over the world; easier to save information; easier to look up/research information about anything; people may become transparent; perhaps easy access to private information about individuals
* What are the causes and effects of water, land, and air pollution?
	+ Water
		- Causes: oil spills, chemical waste
		- Effects: animal deaths, human deaths, contaminate waters, increase in sicknesses
	+ Land:
		- Causes: landfills, garbage dump, waste
		- Effects: unclean areas for animals to live, no habitat for them to live in, chemical waste sinks deep into the soil and prevents healthy crops
	+ Air:
		- Causes: burning fossil fuels, factories
		- Effects: smog, causes dirty air which is breathed by people and animals and they develop diseases and even cancer, not safe to play outside in the park because jungle gym is contaminated