

AP Human Geography: Introduction & Summer Assignment

Summer Assignment(s):

Read all of the information enclosed in this packet as it is designed to help you understand what AP Human Geography is and what we will be studying in the upcoming year.

Summer Assignment Part I: AP Human Geography Blog (Due 8/1/17)

Visit the AP Human Geography blog and create a user account. (Or log-in with an existing Google account).

Available: <http://pnshumangeo.blogspot.com>

To Create an Account:

1. Go to <http://pnshumangeo.blogspot.com>
2. On the top right of your screen click on "Sign In"
3. Click on the link that says "Create an account".
4. Follow the directions to create a user log-in (your e-mail address will be your user ID)
5. Once you have created an account you will be able to select your user ID from the drop down menu under the comment box. Make sure to keep your password in a safe place for use later in the semester!

To Comment on a Post:

1. Click comment under the summer assignment post.
2. Type your post in the box provided and select your user ID from the drop down menu below the post box.
3. Click Post Comment.

****NOTE:** All comments you submit will automatically be sent to me for moderation. I will then post them to the blog. Thus, if your comments do not appear right away BE PATIENT! I will post them soon!

****Hint:** Type all posts in Microsoft Word first and then copy and paste into the comment box. This way you will have a saved back-up copy of all your posts in case something goes wrong on the website.

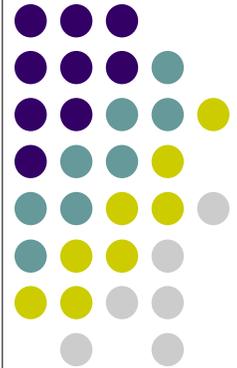
Task:

As the next school year approaches I encourage you to begin paying attention to geography as it exists in the world around us. Your task for the summer is to blog about things you see or hear that remind you of human geography. Anything with a geographic, political or cultural connection can apply. Entries can include anything from news stories about the recent earthquakes to mention of the "Chicago-style" hot dog you ate downtown over the weekend.

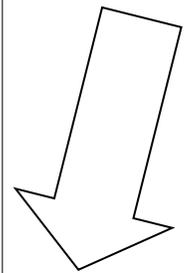
There is no length requirement for your posts, but each student needs to post at least **Three (3) original comments and respond to two (2) classmates' posts throughout the summer.**

If you are struggling to make connections between what you observe on a daily basis and what we will learn in this class, you may wish to reference the list of AP Human Geography goals and Topics included in this packet.

****All blogs must be posted by noon on August 1, 2017
for full credit****



Questions?



out

Contact Ms. Bell

abell@psd202.org

Extra Credit Summer Assignment Part II: Book Review (due 1st day of school)

Over the summer you also have the option to read one of the following books with Human Geography connections:

1. *Collapse* (Jared M. Diamond)
2. *The World is Flat* (Thomas L. Friedman)
3. *Why Geography Matters* (Harm deBlij)
4. *Fast Food Nation* (Eric Schlosser)
5. *How to Lie with Maps* (Mark Monmonier)
6. *Geography of Nowhere* (James Howard Kunstler)
7. *The End of Poverty* (Jeffrey Sachs)
8. *The Kite Runner* (Khaled Hosseini)

****New and used books can be found at very reasonable prices at Amazon.com or other local bookstores and libraries.**

Once you are finished reading complete the following in a 2-3 page essay **IN YOUR OWN WORDS**:

A. Description and Summary (no more than 1 page)

- What are the main ideas covered in the book?
- What was the purpose of the book?

B. Analysis (1-1 1/2 pages)

- How does this book apply to the 5 goals of AP Human Geography (see pages 3 & 4 of packet)?
- What AP Human Geography topics are included in this novel? (see page attached)
- What is the author's perspective on the topics included in the novel? Does the author appear biased?

C. Importance and Conclusion (1/2 page)

- What is your overall reaction to what you have read? What did you learn that you did not know before? How significant are the topics in this book to our understanding of human development?

****Papers must be typed, double spaced, 12 point font, PRINTED and turned in on the 1st day of school. No e-mailed submissions will be accepted so plan accordingly****



What is Human Geography?

The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped humans' understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. As a geography student, you will look spatially at the Earth to analyze humans' organization of space and the environmental consequences of their decisions. You will be looking for patterns across the cultural landscape, trying to identify trends and then anticipate future phenomena that might occur across the landscape. You will also explore different methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice.

Goals of AP Human Geography:

AP Human Geography was established with five college-level goals in mind. These goals are aligned directly with the National Geography Standards that were developed in 1994. Upon successful completion of the course, you should have developed geographic skills that enable you to:

- 1. Use and think about maps and spatial data.**
- 2. Understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places.**
- 3. Recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes.**
- 4. Define regions and evaluate the regionalization process.**
- 5. Characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places.**

Topics in Advanced Placement Human Geography:

I. Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives (how Geography has impacted the organization of people and events on Earth)

II. Population (demographics such as infant mortality rates, crude birth & death rates and migration)

III. Cultural Patterns and Process (the values, tastes and belief systems that define a culture)

IV. Political Organization of Space (how the current world map emerged and what conflicts exist because of political boundaries)

V. Agricultural and Rural Land Use (the impact of agricultural change including new biotechnology on quality of life and the environment)

VI. Industrialization and Economic Development (the interaction between natural resources, culture, politics and history in societal development)

VII. Cities and Urban Land Use (where cities are located and why they are there)

Explanation of AP Human Geography Goals

Use and think about maps and spatial data.

Maps and spatial data are essential in discovering patterns on the Earth's surface that reflect and influence physical and human processes. Learning to use and think critically with these tools will allow you to use real world data to problem solve various situations on Earth. Thinking critically about what is obvious and also that which is hidden on various maps gives you the understanding you need to successfully use maps and spatial data.

Understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places.

Geographers look at data and map sets in order to understand changes in the spatial organization of the Earth's surface. They are particularly interested in focusing on how phenomena (*an observable fact, occurrence or circumstance*) are related to one another in particular places. You should be able to not only recognize and interpret patterns, but also to identify the nature and significance of the relationships among phenomena that occur in the same place. In addition, you should understand how a culture's values and tastes, political situations, and economic conditions help to create unique cultural landscapes.

Recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes.

Geographic study also requires that you view patterns at different scales. Geography really is a matter of scale. You should understand that a phenomenon looked at on a local scale could very well be influenced by circumstances occurring at another scale—national, local, or even global. You should look for the connections operation at multiple scales when trying to explain geographic patterns and arrangements.

Define regions and evaluate the regionalization process.

Geography is not only concerned with identifying patterns across the cultural landscape, but also with analyzing how they came about and what they mean. In order to successfully make such an analysis, you need to break the patterns into smaller parts or categories, referred to as regions. By looking critically at regions of the world, you will be able to consider how and why the regions emerged and hypothesize the implications for future development of Earth's surface.

Characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places.

In order to obtain the true depth of the geographic perspective, you must understand that events and processes occurring in one place can have a profound influence on other places. You should look at places and patterns as part of a whole, not in isolation. Be aware that relationships on Earth are in constant motion, they are continually changing, and your job is to figure out how and why this change occurs.

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**GEOGRAPHY
TEST**



"WELL, TECHNICALLY, THE URAL MOUNTAINS ARE LOCATED ON THE EARTH,
BUT I WANTED YOU TO BE A BIT MORE SPECIFIC."