# **AP Human Geography Exam Review**

**Regionalizing the World**

*\*You should know the following information for each of the following regions. Knowing everything about every country is almost impossible, but if you can understand each region more generally it will definitely help you narrow down those specific multiple choice questions and it will also help you on FRQ’s.\**

North America, Central & South America, Europe, North Africa & SW Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, East Asia, South East Asia & Pacific

What to Know for Each Region by Unit

Unit 1: Thinking Geographically

5 Themes of Geography: Location, Place, Human-Environment Interaction, Movement, and Region, <https://www.worldatlas.com/the-five-themes-in-geography.html>

Koppen Climate Classification Map (Model Review)

Countries in the Region (Google Maps, JetPunk Map Quizzes)

Unit 2: Population & Migration

The Demographic Transition Model (Notes, Slides, Models Review)

Population Pyramids by Country <https://www.populationpyramid.net/>

Population Density & Growth Maps <https://www.populationpyramid.net/>

Populations Concentrations <https://luminocity3d.org/WorldPopDen/#3/12.00/10.00>

Unit 3: Cultural Geography

Race, Ethnicity (Notes, Slides, Chapter Summaries)

Folk v. Pop Culture (Notes, Slides, Chapter Summaries)

Language Families (Notes, Slides, Chapter Summaries)

<http://unit4heymissawg.weebly.com/uploads/2/0/8/2/20827782/language_families.jpg>

Major Religions (Notes, Slides, Chapter Summaries, PBS Interactive Map) <https://unctv.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/sj14-soc-religmap/world-religions-map/#.WusUIaSUvIU>

Gender Roles (Notes, Slides, Chapter Summaries)

Unit 4: Political Geography

Types of Government (Wikipedia)

Political History/Stability (Fragile States Index)

Conflicts (Notes, Chapter Summaries, Global Conflict Tracker, Projects)

Shapes of States (Prorupted, Elongated, Compact, Fragmented, Perforated) (Notes, Chapter Summaries)

Unit 5: Agricultural Geography

Major Types of Agriculture (Owlcation- go over the types and list the regions where they are dominant)

Major Agricultural Products produced by Region (Notes, Slides, Weebly)

Unit 6: Urban Geography

Core, Semi-Periphery, Periphery (Notes, Slides)

HDI Rankings by Country <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/2019-human-development-index-ranking>

Sectors of the Economy (Notes, Slides, Countries List)

Unit 7: Industrial & Economic Geography

Urban City Models (Notes, Model Review)

Global Cities <https://www.kearney.com/global-cities/2019>

**Unit 1: Thinking Geographically**

**Key Terms**

Human Geography Globalization

Physical Geography Spatial Distribution

Spatial Perspective Five Themes of Geography

Sense of Place Perception of Place

Accessibility Connectivity

Landscape Cartography

Absolute Location Relative Location

Remote Sensing Formal Region

Functional Region Time-distance decay

Expansion Diffusion Relocation Diffusion

**Key Concepts**

Cartography (Definition and original purpose)

Eratosthenes (Geography)

Carl Sauer (Cultural Landscapes)

W.D. Pattison's- Four Traditions of Geography- Earth-Science (Physical Geography), Culture-Environment (Environmental Geography), Locational (Spatial Data/Cartography), and Area-Analysis (Regional Geography)

Place, Site, Situation

Absolute Location/Mathematical Location

Idiographic (specific) vs Nomothetic (general) descriptions of places

Spatial Perspective, Spatial Association, Transferability, Accessibility, Connectivity/Spatial Interaction

Tobler’s First Law of Geography & Friction of Distance

Remote Sensing, Global Positioning System (GPS), Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Map Projections: Azimuthal/Planar, Robinson, Mercator, Goode’s Equal Area, Conic, Peter’s, Cylindrical, Dymaxion

Map Scale, Distortion, Absolute & Relative Distance

Map Types: Choropleth, Topographical, Thematic, Dot, Cognitive/Mental, Cartogram, Isoline, Political, Physical, Reference

Distribution, Concentration, Density, Pattern/Dispersion

Types of Diffusion- Contagious, Hierarchical, Stimulus, Relocation

The Township and Range System

Regions- Formal, Vernacular/Perceptual, Functional/Nodal, Climatic

Quantitative v Qualitative

Environmental Determinism v Possibilism

**Key Content**

- Geographers ask where things are and why they are where they are.

- **Cartography** is the science of map making, and has evolved from prehistoric humans making rudimentary maps of their local environment, to today’s societies utilizing electronic devices to make high-quality, precise maps.

- Geographers use the concepts of **space**, **place**, and **region** to describe unique characteristics of locations on Earth as they happen across different **scales** and the **connection** between human activities and the physical environment.

- A **place** is a specific point on Earth, distinguished by a set of particular traits. Every place occupies a unique geographic location, or position, on Earth’s surface.

- **Scale** is the relationship between the portion of Earth being studied and Earth as a whole. Geographers study a variety of scales, from local to global.

- **Map Scale** The map’s **scale** is the relationship between map units and the actual distance on Earth. Ratioor fractionscale gives the relationship as a ratio, for example, 1:100,000 is that 1 unit on the map equals 100,000 units on the ground. In a written scale units are expressed in a convenient way, for example, “1 centimeter equals 1 kilometer.” A graphic scale is given by a scale bar showing the distance represented on Earth’s surface.

- **Space** refers to the physical gap or interval between two objects.

- **Connection** refers to relationships among people and objects across the barrier of space.

- **Geography in the Ancient World:** Maps have been created for thousands of years. The earliest maps were used as reference tools—simple navigation devices designed to show a traveler how to get from Point A to Point B.

- **Contemporary Mapping:** Maps are used by geographers primarily for displaying geographic information and for offering geographic explanation. Maps are the geographer’s most essential tool.

- **Global Positioning System (GPS)** uses satellites to reference locations on the ground.GPS is most commonly used for navigation.

- **GI-Science Geographic Information Science (GIScience)** is the examination of data relating to Earth acquired through satellite and other electronic information technologies. A **geographic information system (GIS)** is a complex computer system which stores and presents geographically referenced data. Each type of information can be stored in a layer. Separate layers could be created for boundaries of countries, bodies of water, roads, and names of places. Most maps combine several layers and GIS maps permit construction of much more complex maps than can be drawn by hand.

- The acquisition of data about Earth’s surface from a satellite orbiting Earth or from airplanes is known as **remote sensing**.

- **Projection** Maps are a planar (flat) representation of Earth’s curved surface. Earth is nearly a sphere and is therefore only accurately represented on a globe. Thus, some distortion must result when using maps, especially at small scales (continental or whole-Earth maps). Cartographers must choose a **projection** that results in some set of distortions between shape, distance, relative size, and direction.

- **Latitude and Longitude** Mathematical location describes a place’s location using a coordinate system such as **latitude** and **longitude**. Longitude is culturally defined as starting at Greenwich, England, and measures degrees of east and west of that line of longitude, or **meridian**. The zero degree longitude line in Greenwich, England, is known as the **prime meridian**.Latitude measures north and south distance with the **equator** (0° latitude) being the line of latitude halfway between the North Pole (90° north latitude) and the South Pole (90° south latitude). A latitude line is known as a **parallel** because all latitude lines are parallel to the equator. The equator is the parallel with the greatest circumference and is the baseline for measuring latitude.

- **Telling Time** Longitude plays an important role in calculating time. If we let every fifteenth degree of longitude represent one time zone, and divide 360 degrees by 15 degrees, we get 24 time zones. **Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)**, or Universal Time (UT), is the master reference time for all points on Earth. When you cross the **International Date Line** you move the clock back one entire day, if you are heading eastward, toward America. You turn the clock ahead 24 hours if you are heading westward, toward Asia. The International Date Line for the most part follows 180 degrees longitude.

- **Location** A feature’s place on the Earth may be identified by its **location**, the position that something occupies on Earth’s surface. The three components of Location are; **Place, Site, and Situation.**

- **Place Names** A place name, or **toponym**, is the most common way of describing a location. Many uninhabited places are even named. Place names sometimes reflect the cultural history of a place, and a change in place name is often culturally motivated.

- The term **site** makes reference to the physical characteristics of a place. Important site characteristics include climate, water sources, topography, soil, vegetation, latitude, and elevation. The combination of physical features gives each place a distinctive character.

- **Situation** The term **situation** describes a place in terms of its location relative to other places. Understanding situation can help locate an unfamiliar place in terms of known places, or it can help explain the significance of a place.

- A **region** is an area of Earth defined by one or more defining features. The Earth is partitioned into a number of regions by Geographers, such as the Midwest and Latin America. A region gains uniqueness from possessing not a single human or environmental characteristic but a combination of them. The **cultural landscape** is a recurrent theme throughout this text. It represents the total sum of cultural, economic, and environmental forces combining to make distinctive landscapes across Earth.

- A **formal region**,also called a **uniform region**, is a region with a predominant or universal characteristic. Formal regions commonly have well-defined boundaries. The shared feature could be a cultural value such as a common language or an environmental property such as climate. In a formal region, the selected characteristic is present throughout the region.

- A **functional region**,also known as a **nodal region**,is defined by an area of use or influence of some feature. Often used in economic geography, functional regions have “fuzzy” boundaries as the influence of the central feature decreases over distance. The functional region is organized around a focal point. A good example of a functional region is the reception area of a television station.

- A **vernacular region**,or **perceptual region**, is the most ambiguously defined as they rely on a mental conception of a place as belonging to a common region for complex cultural reasons. Such regions emerge from people’s informal sense of place rather than scientific models developed through geographic thought. A vernacular region is an individual’s **mental map**, which is an internal representation of a portion of Earth’s surface. A mental map depicts what an individual knows about a place, containing personal impressions of what is in the place and where the place is located.

- **Spatial Association** Different levels of regional analysis can demonstrate dramatically different characteristics. Geographers attempt to explain regional differences by looking for factors with similar distributions. **Spatial association** arises if the distribution of one feature located in a region is related to the distribution of another feature.

- **Scale: Global and Local** Scale is an integral element of geographical analysis, especially as it concerns issues of globalization. **Globalization** is a force or process that engages the world as a whole and results in making something worldwide in scope.

- Three aspects of **Distribution: Density, Concentration, and Pattern.**

- **Density** measures the number of features per area of land. Other measures, such as physiological or agricultural density, are based on a subgroup of people or a subtype of land.

- **Concentration** The extent of a feature’s spread over space is its **concentration**. If the objects in an area are close together, they are *clustered*; if they are far apart they are *dispersed*. In a dispersed neighborhood, each house has a large private yard, whereas in a clustered neighborhood, the houses are close together and open space is shared as a community park.

- **Pattern** describes whether features are arranged along geometric or other predictable arrangements. Geographers observe that many objects form a linear distribution, such as the arrangement of houses along a street or stations along a subway line. Many American cities contain a regular pattern of streets, known as a grid pattern, which intersect at right angles at uniform intervals to form square or rectangular blocks.

- **Diffusion** is the process by which a feature spreads across space from one place to another over time. A feature originates at a hearth and diffuses from there to other places. A **hearth** is a place from which an innovation emerges.

- **Relocation Diffusion** The term connection refers to the relationships among people and objects across the barrier of space. **Diffusion** refers to the spread of anything from a cultural trait, people, things, or ideas from some point of origin (a **hearth**). When people move, they carry with them their culture, including language, religion, and ethnicity.

- **Expansion Diffusion** refers to the growth of an idea to new areas through a hierarchy (**hierarchical diffusion**), popular notions or even contact (**contagious diffusion**), or the spread of an underlying idea divorced from its original context (**stimulus diffusion**).

- **Spatial Interaction** Some places are well-connected by communications or transportation networks, other are not as much. Contact diminishes with increasing distance and eventually disappears. This trailing-off phenomenon is called **distance decay**.In the contemporary world, distance decay is much less severe because connection between places takes less time.

- **Space-time Compression** describes the reduction in time it takes for something to reach another place. Interaction takes place through a **network**,which is a chain of communication that connects places. Ideas that originate in a hearth are now able to diffuse rapidly to other areas through communication networks. Distant places seem less remote and more accessible to us.

- **Three Pillars of Sustainability:** **Environment, Economy, and Society.** Sustainability requires curtailing the use of nonrenewable resources and limiting the use of renewable resources to the level at which the environment can continue to supply them indefinitely. The sustainable use and management of Earth’s natural resources to meet human needs such as food, medicine, and recreation is **conservation**. Conservation differs from **preservation**, which is the maintenance of resources in their present condition, with as little human impact as possible. Preservation does not regard nature as a resource for human use.

- **Cultural Ecology:** The geographic study of human-environmental relationships.

- **Environmental determinism**, largely dismissed by modern geographers, states that physical factors cause cultures to develop and behave as they do.

- **Possibilism** recognizes the constraints of the physical environment while also crediting human cultures with the ability to adapt to the environment in many ways—including by changing it.

- **Sustainable Ecosystem: The Netherlands** A **polder** is a piece of land that is created by draining water from an area. All together, the Netherlands has 2600 square miles of polders. The Dutch government has reserved most of the polders for agriculture to reduce the country’s dependence on imported food. The Dutch have also constructed massive dikes to prevent the North Sea from flooding much of the country. A second ambitious project in the Netherlands is the Delta Plan. The low-lying delta in the southwestern part of the country is very vulnerable to flooding. The Delta Plan called for the construction of several dams to close off most of the waterways from the North Sea.

- **South Florida** are environmentally sensitive areas, but have been modified less sensitively than those in the Netherlands. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built a levee around Lake Okeechobee during the 1930s, drained the northern one-third of the Everglades during the 1940s, and diverted the Kissimmee River into canals during the 1950s. These modifications opened up hundreds of thousands of hectares of land for growing sugarcane and protecting farmland as well as the land occupied by the growing South Florida population from flooding. Polluted water, mainly from cattle grazing along the banks on the canals, flowed into Lake Okeechobee. The modification of barrier islands along South Florida’s coast by humans has caused a lot of damage.