

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY: SUMMER ASSIGNMENT



Welcome to AP Human Geography!

We will be using 2 texts throughout the year. I recommend that you purchase both books so that you can highlight and write in them. They are both available on Amazon and other online sources. If you prefer not to buy the books, Las Lomas will provide them for you, but you will not be able to mark them.

1. Rubenstein, James. The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography, 11th ed. Prentice Hall. ISBN13: 9780132926584

2. Kuby, et al. Human Geography in Action. 6th Ed. ISBN: 978-1-118-42257-1

* Make sure you get the correct editions and that there is no writing in or pages torn out of the Kuby book.

You should also buy an exam review book. REA, Princeton Review, or Kaplan are all good options.

Part I: Summer Reading- “Collapse” by Jared Diamond & Current Events

- Read the Prologue **and/or** watch the entire video of Jared Diamond’s lecture at UCSB at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bc4bXIg8JDk&feature=related> ,
- **Read** Ch. 10: Rwanda, Ch. 11: DR and Haiti, Ch. 12: China, and Ch. 15: Big Businesses and the Environment. (Feel free to read the whole book, but you will only be expected to have read these chapters.)
- Familiarize yourself with some world news. Read *The New York Times*, *The Economist*, watch *60 Minutes* or *Frontline*.....

During the first weeks of school, we will have a **scored discussion** based on the discussion questions on the back of this page. Take detailed notes as you read, and be prepared to participate in an in-depth discussion of these topics. Please put some thought into your comments and refer **specifically to examples** from the book and the current events. You will be graded on your level of preparation, reference to evidence (quotes/examples) from the book, and how well you stimulate further discussion. You will not get credit for vague answers. You will also be tested on the book on the first Unit test.

Part II - Basic Physical Geography:

- Even though the class focuses on human geography, it is important to have basic knowledge of physical geography to succeed. On the first Friday of school in the fall, you will be tested on your understanding of basic geographic knowledge. In order to prepare for this test, you should review these physical geography terms on your own. I recommend using online sites such as sheppardsoftware.com to prepare. The test is hard, so be warned.

Know and be able to identify the location of:

1. Continents - Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe, Australia
2. Oceans - Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic
3. Islands - Tasmania, Melanesia, Micronesia, Polynesian Triangle, Sicily, Sardinia, Crete, Corsica, Greenland, Aleutians, Madagascar, Tierra del Fuego, Falklands, Timor, Ceylon, Taiwan, Java, Cyprus.
4. Major Water Bodies - Caribbean Sea, Mediterranean Sea, South China Sea, Bering Sea, Gulf of Mexico, Hudson Bay, Sea of Japan, North Sea, Black Sea, Red Sea, Baltic Sea, Persian Gulf
5. Lakes - Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Lake Michigan, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, Aral Sea, Caspian Sea, Lake Baykal (Baikal), Lake Victoria, Lake Chad, Lake Nyasa (Malawi)
6. Rivers - Nile, Amazon, Chang Jiang (Yangtze), Mississippi (Missouri), Huang He (Yellow), Congo (Zaire), Niger, Volga, St. Lawrence, Rio Grande, Indus, Danube, Tigris, Euphrates
7. Countries (must know)- United States, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Guyana, Cuba, Jamaica, Panama, Chile, South Africa, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, Eritrea, Egypt, Libya, Algeria, Rwanda, Burundi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Cote D'Ivoire, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran, Israel, Turkey, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Indonesia, Philippines, Japan, North and South Korea, China, Uzbekistan, Georgia, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, Italy, Spain, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania.
8. Geographic Regions and physical features- The Balkans, Scandinavia, Horn of Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, Western Europe, South Asia, Southwest Asia (Middle East), East Asia, Southeast Asia, IndoChina, Kashmir, Sahel, Great Lakes Region of Africa, MesoAmerica, Rockies, Andes, Alps, Himalaya, Urals, Atlas Mtns, Sahara Desert, Gobi Desert, Kalihari Desert, States within the U.S., Provinces within Canada.

Part III: Open your Eyes!

-Travel, observe, experience and think about the world beyond your typical daily experience. Watch the news, watch National Geographic Channel, read a newspaper or news magazine, see a foreign film. Watch people. Think about your impact on the world. How much gas, water, energy do you use? How much garbage do you create in a day? How do you interact with people from other cultures, races, religions etc.? Consider yourself and your role in the world.

Enjoy the summer and relax a bit. Be prepared to learn, work, and enjoy yourself next year. I am extremely excited about the course, and I hope you share my enthusiasm. See you in the fall.

Aloha,

Ms. Wentner

"COLLAPSE" By Jared Diamond - DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

(USE **SPECIFIC** EXAMPLES/QUOTES FROM THE BOOK!)

1. **Be able to explain** the 5 factors (5 point framework) that Diamond claims have lead to the collapse of societies.
2. "I am writing this book from a middle-of-the-road perspective," writes Diamond in the introduction, "with experience of both environmental problems and of business realities" (p. 17). How successful is Diamond in staking out this objective position? How does he balance (or fail to balance) environmental concerns with business realities? (Consider his discussion of Chevron in Ch 15)
3. According to Diamond, how did the pressures of population growth contribute to genocide in Rwanda in 1994? What other factors may have contributed? Which factors do you think were the most influential in causing the genocide?
4. How important are leaders in determining the ecological success or failure of a civilization? (Think Ch. 11) To what extent did bad leadership contribute to or cause the collapses Diamond talks about?
5. Diamond writes that our world "cannot sustain China and other Third World countries and current First World countries all operating at First World levels" (p. 376). What does he mean by this? Can we ethically deny Third World countries the comforts and advantages that we in the First World enjoy? In your opinion, what should our leaders do to lessen or resolve looming conflicts over resources between First and Third World countries?
6. Relate at least 3 of Diamond's 5 lessons (from his 5-point framework) in "Collapse" with **at least three recent events** (Any major global events in the past 3 years). Do recent events support or contradict Diamond's 5 point thesis? WHY? HOW? Are these events signs of imminent collapse of modern civilizations or can they be handled in a way that reflects lessons learned from previous collapses? Be thorough in your comparison!