BELLWORK

Please take out your Tree Maps from yesterday. If you have not done so already, answer the Essential Question at the bottom of the graphic organizer.

Essential Question: How did the ancient peoples of the Mediterranean and Southwest Asia impact the natural environment?

Answers will vary. Use examples from your Double-Entry notes & this tree Map.

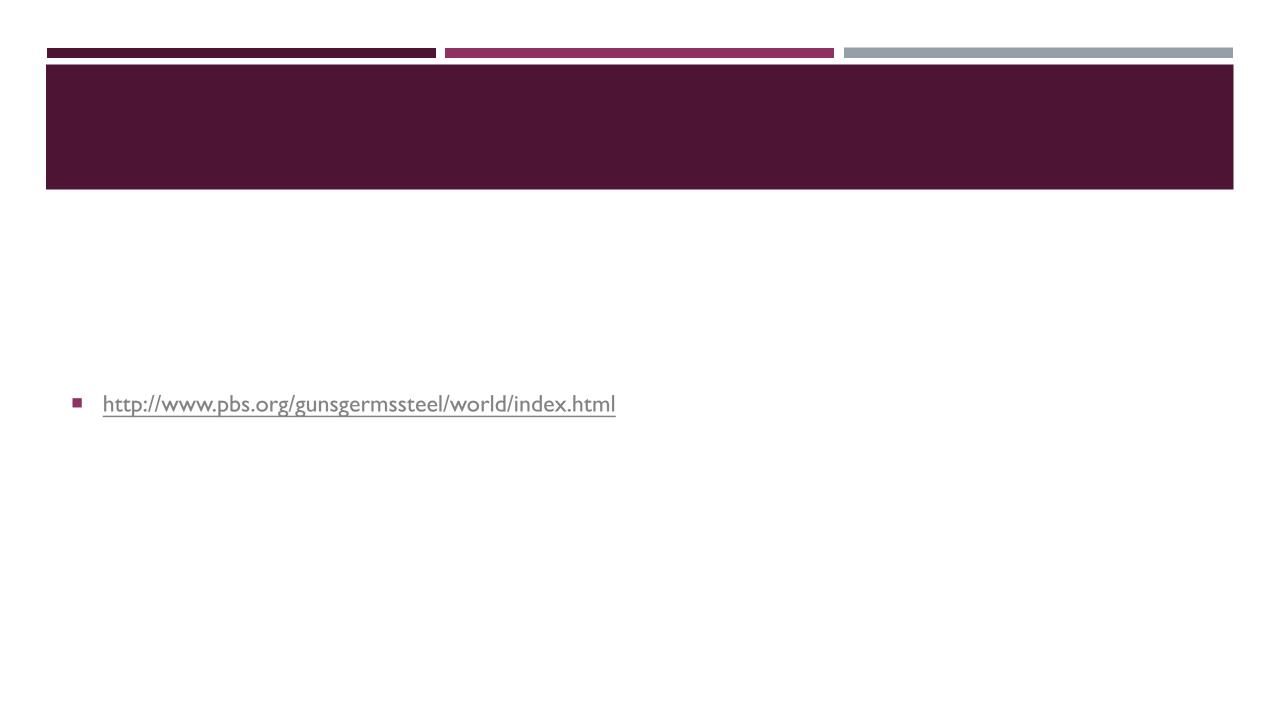
GUNS, GERMS AND STEEL EPISODE ONE: OUT OF EDEN

JARED DIAMOND'S THEORY OF GEOGRAPHIC LUCK

■ The land of riches and opportunity is how most people would describe the United States. We are, without a doubt, the richest nation on Earth. Yet when we look at our history, we learn that our riches do not date back thousands of years like China or areas of the Middle East once referred to as the "Fertile Crescent". Rather, America has gained its riches over a relatively short period of time.

QUICK WRITE

- In your notebooks, title: Geographic Luck answer the following question:
 - Why do some countries have an abundance of wealth and riches while others have remained poor for most of their history?



- Looking at the map, why do you think areas like North America, Europe and Asia have so much technological development and wealth while huge continents like Africa have high rates of poverty and disease and remain relatively undeveloped?
- How has a relatively isolated continent like Oceania managed to advance technologically and build the relatively wealthy nation of Australia and have other areas, such a New Guinea, where technological advances and wealth are much less?
- After studying the map, what theories do you have about why most of the wealth in the world is found in areas north of the Tropic of Cancer? (23.5 North latitude)

JARED DIAMOND

- Jared Diamond is the author of "Guns, Germs and Steel" and is a professor of biology at UCLA. His theory of geographic luck is simple:
- "Some countries develop more rapidly than others and were able to expand and conquer much of the world because of geographic luck. The natural resources available to them coupled with the native species and climate provided by their geography led them to become more agricultural and less reliant on hunting and gathering for sustenance. The agrarian lifestyle, in turn, allowed for the development of "specialists" within the civilization who could work on developing and perfecting the technologies necessary to make these civilizations more profitable, stronger, and more powerful than others around them.
 Diamond asserts that those living in temperate climates with indigenous animals that could be domesticated were more likely to develop advanced civilizations."

LOOK AT ENTRY 7

Look at the map inside your foldable. Does this support Jared Diamond's theory? Why or why not?