

Key Issue 1: Where Are Languages Distributed?

Pages 142-149

****Always keep your key term packet out whenever you take notes from Rubenstein. As the terms come up in the text, think through the significance of the term.*

1. Define ***language***:

2. Define ***official language***:

3. Define ***language family***:

4. Define ***language branch***:

5. Define ***language group***:

6. Make brief notes on each of the following language families as you read about them in this section (i.e. how many people speak a language of that family, where spoken, common languages, etc.). See pages 146-149.
 - a. Indo-European

 - b. Sino-Tibetan

 - c. Austronesian

 - d. Austro-Asiatic

e. Tai Kadai

f. Japanese

g. Korean

h. Afro-Asiatic

i. Altaic

j. Uralic

k. Niger-Congo



l. Nilo-Saharan

m. Khoisan

Key Issue 2: Why is English Related to Other Languages?

Pages 150-157

1. Using the reading on page 150, complete the following chart about the Germanic Language Branch

Germanic Branch							
West Germanic Group				North Germanic Group			
							

2. **Indo-Iranian Branch:** Make 2 bullets charts from the reading.

Indic Group (Eastern)	Iranian Group (Western)

3. How did Russian become the most important East Slavic language?
4. What is the most important West Slavic language?

5. Describe the controversy between Czech and Slovak languages under Czechoslovakia's government? What happened?
6. Why are South Slavic languages, which were once very similar to each other, becoming increasingly different today?
7. The **four** most contemporary Romance languages are _____,
_____, _____ &
_____.
8. How did English become widely diffused?
9. What **three** European people originally came together to form the English people and English language?
10. Where did these people come from?
11. What **two** subsequent invasions added additional words to the evolving English language?
12. When and why did English diffuse to North America?

13. How did Latin languages diffuse in Europe? What happened to the native languages?
14. Define ***Vulgar Latin***:
15. What is the name of the (theoretical) common ancestral language of all languages discussed in this key issue of the chapter?
16. Why is its existence difficult (impossible) to prove?
17. Contrast the **two** views of the origin of this language in the chart below.

"Kurgan" Theory	Renfrew Hypothesis

Key Issue 3: Why Do Individual Languages Vary Among Places?

Pages 158-163

1. **Dialects** are defined as “regional variations of a language” and are distinguished by **three** things. What are they?
2. Explain what an *isogloss* is.
3. People from all **three** eastern regions (New England, Southeastern, Midlands) migrated into the Midwest, Great Plains and Western United States. Why is there a relatively uniform form of English (dialect) spoken across this enormous area?
4. Define *standard language*:
5. What is the standard language for of English? Where did it come from (3 cities)? How was it diffused throughout Britain?
6. In a **single word**, why is American English different from that spoken in England?
7. Why don't people in the United States speak “proper” English?

8. Why is it that nearly 90% of Spanish & Portuguese speakers live outside of Europe?
9. Why is it difficult to distinguish individual languages from dialects?
10. Define *creolized language*:

Key Issue 4: Why do People Preserve Local Languages?

Pages 164-177

1. Prepare detailed notes with bullets and notations on the maps regarding the following case studies:
2. **Belgium:** Political & linguistic divides (Figure 5-27)
Switzerland: Peace in a multi-lingual state (Figure 5-29)
Nigeria: Problems in a multi-lingual state (Figure 5-30)



Notes:

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3. Complete the chart below by taking notes on the various languages/countries & the issues they are facing.

Basque –
Icelandic –
Native American –
Hebrew –
Celtic- (Welsh, Irish, Breton, Scottish, Cornish)
Australia-
New Zealand-

Occitan-

4. Define *lingua franca*:
5. Define *pidgin language*:
6. How has expansion diffusion occurred with English? Give **three** examples.
7. Does the United States have an *official language*? Why or why not?
8. Discuss how the French language is important in Canada.
9. Why is much of the internet in English? Why might this be problematic?