Geography Study Guide Explanations

***(This is not a complete study guide. There may be questions asked on the final that are not on this review)***

**Mental Map**: A person’s point of view or perception of the world. (Map you make in your mind)

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**Parts of a map**

Compass rose: tells you direction. North, South, East, West

Legend or key: shows what different symbols, colors represent.

Scale: measuring a certain distance on a map that represents actual distance on the ground



 **Location**

Two types of location

1- Absolute: Find the Latitude and Longitude address

Latitude: Run east to west

Longitude: Run north to south

2-Relative: Where something is in relation to something else. (Example Portugal has a relative location west of Spain. Nevada has a relative location West of Utah and East of California)

**Settlement**

Why did people settle where they did? Access to water, fertile land and soil, comfortable mild climates, defense, close to rivers to trade and navigate

**Seasons**

What creates different seasons around the world? Tilt of the Earth on its axis and it’s revolution around the sun. Remember Tilt and location determine different seasons in different places.

**Climate**

Climate is the average weather in a place over time. (Measured by average rainfall and temperature.)

Weather is the day-to-day conditions.

There are many climate types around the world. Tropical, Dry (arid, semiarid) Mid-Latitudes (marine west coast, humid continental) and High Latitudes (Subarctic, Tundra, Highland)

**Landforms**

Peninsula, archipelago, mountain, cliff, canyon, gulf, plateau, delta, etc.

**Processes that shape earth**

Weathering, erosion, tectonic processes (moving of earth’s crust)

Plate Tectonics: Process where crust moves on the earth’s surface. (Creates mountains, valleys, earthquakes, volcanoes)

**Renewable vs. Non renewable resources**

1- Renewable Resources: Things that can replenish themselves- sunlight, water wind

2- Non- renewable: Things that can replenish themselves. Coal, petroleum, etc.

**Population Pyramids**

Shows the population of male and female in a particular country for each age group

Males on one side, Females on the other side.

Why do they look the way they do? What do they tell you about a population? They can tell you how fast or slow a population is growing. Use the examples below.

Which one represents a developing country? (LDC)



**Government Types** (How are countries governed, who’s in charge, etc)

Monarchy: “Rule by one” Rule of king or queen

Anarchy: Complete lack of political system

Republic: Elects representatives to make all government decisions

Totalitarian: Government is in “total” control. Can be a political party or dictator in power

Theocracy: “Rule by God” church leaders act as authority.

Dictatorship: Single, unelected leader. Usually uses force and coercion to keep control

Oligarchy: “Rule by few” Power rest in hands of a few elite

Constitutional Republic: United States is an example. We have a constitution and we have representative that we elect to make decisions for us.

**Economic Systems**- (How people make money, what they do, how they earn a living, etc)

1- Traditional/Subsistence: Most basic economic type. Do things by tradition or what others have done before you.

2- Market: (Example: Capitalism) People choose what to buy and sell. In a true market economy government has no involvement.

3- Mixed: (Example: Socialism) Mix of other economic types. U.S. is an example of mixed.

4- Command: (Example: Communism) Government makes all decisions on what to buy and sell