REVIEW QUESTIONS FOR EXAM TWO

LANGUAGE

1. What is language as we defined it?

- ✓ Why is it so important in our study of cultural geography?
- ✓ When did language begin?

2. How many languages are there in the world?

- ✓ What are the reasons that an exact number hard to pinpoint?

3. What are the most common languages spoken in the world?

- ✓ Why is English so important and prevalent in the world today?

4. By what processes do languages evolve and diffuse?

5. What are the origins/history of the English language?

- ✓ Is this history similar or unique from the general history of all languages?

6. What is language reconstruction?

- ✓ In what ways do linguists reconstruct languages?

7. How are languages classified?

- ✓ What is a language family tree?
- ✓ What does the general indo-European family tree look like (especially the main branches and the branch leading to the evolution of English)?

8. What is an Isolate? Examples?

9. What are some of the characteristics of the major language families of the world? (Indo-European, Sino-Tibetan, Afro-Asiatic, Austronesian, Dravidian, Altaic, Niger-Congo, Japenese, Amerindian)

10. What are the proposed origins of Indo-European?

11. Explain the spatial distribution of language families.

12. What is “paralanguage?”

13. What is writing? Why is it an important means of communication?

14. Where did writing arise independently? How does writing diffuse?

15. What are the three different forms/symbols writing may take?

16. What is the history/evolution of writing that led to the alphabet we use today?

RELIGION

1. What is religion, as we defined it?

2. How does religion influence the cultural landscape?

3. What are the differences between Universalizing and Ethnic Religions? What is the global percentage breakdown between the two? What does it mean to be secular?

4. What are the major components (*founder, founded, books, branches, adherents, origins, basic history, and major tenets*) of the world's major religions (focus on only <u>what we discussed in class</u>)?

- ✓ Christianity
- ✓ Islam
- ✓ Judaism
- ✓ Buddhism
- ✓ Hinduism
- ✓ Shintoism
- ✓ Taoism
- ✓ Confucianism
- ✓ Sikhism
- ✓ "Localized Ethnic Religions"

9. Explain the development of the major branches within Christianity and within Islam.

10. Explain the lineage of the "Abrahamic" religions (Islam, Christianity and Judaism).

11. Map the spatial distribution of world religions.

13. Explain some of the ways religion and governments interact.

14. Map and explain the religious conflicts we spoke about in class.

15. What is the history and reasons for the conflict (Israel/Palestinian) in the Middle East? Draw Israel and locate the important places on a map along with the 3 holy sites in Jerusalem we mentioned in class.

POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

1. What is a state? What is a "nation?" what is a nation-state, a stateless nation?

2. How many states exist today? Why the discrepancy?

3. Explain the evolution of the concept of a state

4. What is a political boundary? How does it relate to air space, underground, maritime activities?

5. Explain the different reasons borders may be drawn and refer to specific examples of each (i.e. cultural…physical…geometric)

6. Explain the evolution of the political geography of the United States.

7. Briefly explain the political development of the other world regions (Latin America, South Asia, SW Asia, SE Asia, Africa, Europe); also explain the problems that arose as a result of some of those boundaries.

8. Briefly explain the political "hotspots" that exist worldwide today

9. Explain the United States military budget (due so by explaining the federal budget) and global presence.

10. Explain the different forms of government on the "world political spectrum" and an example of each (if there is one)

11. Explain the two types of representative democracies outline in class.

12. Explain the electoral college (pro, cons, origins)

13. What is "gerrymandering?"

14. When did NATO begin? What is its goal? Who are the members? Has it grown or shrank historically?

15. When did the EU begin? What is its goal? Who are the members? What recent challenges has it experienced?

16. When did the United Nations begin? What is its goal? Who are the members? Who holds the real power (and why – how are they powerful)?

❖ If there have been any major ongoing current events discussed in class be sure to know the basics of them for the test