

## Key Geography Concepts

1. A ratio of the number of items within a defined unit of area measures
  - (A) dispersion
  - (B) direction
  - (C) pattern
  - (D) density
  - (E) diffusion
2. Which of the following best describes the *site* of Manhattan?
  - (A) A regional transportation hub for the northeastern United States
  - (B) A midway point along an urban corridor stretching from Boston to Washington, D.C.
  - (C) An island bordered by the Hudson and East Rivers
  - (D) An important center for international trade and commerce
  - (E) An urban center located two hours northeast of Philadelphia by train
3. Spatial coordinates of latitude and longitude express
  - (A) relative location
  - (B) absolute location
  - (C) relative direction
  - (D) absolute direction
  - (E) relative distance
4. Which of the following concepts refers to the spatial arrangement of items or features within a given area?
  - (A) Distribution
  - (B) Direction
  - (C) Accessibility
  - (D) Trajectory
  - (E) Scale

5. A method for representing the three-dimensional surface of the earth on the two-dimensional surface of a map is known as
- scale
  - globalization
  - proximity
  - ethnography
  - projection
6. A subjective image of an area informed by individual perceptions and experiences in that area is known as a
- thematic map
  - reference map
  - mental map
  - contour map
  - topographic map
7. The notion that the physical environment offers certain constraints and opportunities that influence cultural practices without entirely determining them is known as
- assimilation
  - possibilism
  - diffusion
  - determinism
  - divergence
8. Which of the following is *not* true of culture?
- It is biologically inherited.
  - It varies from place to place.
  - It can converge and diverge over time.
  - It can diffuse across space.
  - It expresses human adaptations and innovations.
9. Which of the following phenomena most directly illustrates the concept of cultural convergence?
- Linguistic drift
  - Ethnic separatism
  - Globalization
  - Gerrymandering
  - Religious fundamentalism
10. The idea that material innovations, such as new technologies, diffuse more rapidly than newly exposed cultures can adequately respond and adapt to them best illustrates the idea of
- cultural divergence
  - stimulus diffusion
  - environmental determinism
  - cultural lag
  - relocation diffusion
11. The principle of distance decay describes
- a positive correlation between distance and degree of relation
  - a neutral correlation between distance and degree of relation
  - a negative correlation between distance and degree of relation
  - an uncertain correlation between distance and degree of relation
  - no correlation between distance and degree of relation
12. The particular conditions that compel individuals or groups to migrate from one place to another are commonly referred to as
- cause and effect issues
  - place and space dynamics
  - local and global conflicts
  - past and future concerns
  - push and pull factors
13. Economic and/or political associations that are comprised of multiple, autonomous member states that cooperate to achieve a common purpose are known as
- transnational corporations
  - supranational organizations
  - multiethnic societies
  - nationalism
  - nongovernmental organizations
14. Which of the following U.S. cities is a site along the Mississippi River and is situated as a major port for offshore petroleum production in the Gulf of Mexico?
- St. Louis
  - Houston
  - Mobile
  - New Orleans
  - Minneapolis

15. The ability to travel and communicate over greater distances in shorter amounts of time, due to technological innovations such as the airplane, automobile, telephone, and Internet, represents the idea of
- time-space compression
  - stimulus diffusion
  - friction of distance
  - relocation diffusion
  - possibilism
16. Which of the following cartographic terms describes the location of a place in terms of its angular distance north or south of the equator?
- Longitude
  - Azimuth
  - Latitude
  - Meridian
  - Legend
17. During the process of mapmaking, in which the three-dimensional surface of the earth is projected onto a flat, two-dimensional surface, all of the following attributes can become distorted EXCEPT
- shape
  - area
  - distance
  - direction
  - relative location
18. The Prime Meridian, which passes through Greenwich, England, is equivalent to which of the following lines of longitude?
- 0° longitude
  - 45° longitude
  - 90° longitude
  - 180° longitude
  - 270° longitude
19. The geographical region whose center is located along the equator and whose area extends roughly 23° north and south of the equator is known as the
- polar region
  - tundra
  - rainforest region
  - tropical zone
  - taiga
20. Which of the following terms refers to a ratio between distances portrayed on a map and actual distances on the earth's surface that correspond to this map?
- Chart
  - Scale
  - Contour
  - Grid
  - Projection
21. Processes of globalization are most closely associated with which of the following forms of socioeconomic organization?
- Mutualism
  - Socialism
  - Feudalism
  - Capitalism
  - Communism
22. A subfield of geography that deals holistically with the environmental and human attributes of a particular territory is known as
- human geography
  - political geography
  - physical geography
  - biogeography
  - regional geography
23. Which of the following terms most directly refers to geographical techniques that collect information about the earth's surface from distantiate perspectives?
- Geographic information systems
  - Geomancy
  - Remote sensing
  - Ethnography
  - Demography
24. In cognitive space, perceived boundaries such as frontiers, horizons, and shorelines are known as
- paths
  - nodes
  - edges
  - districts
  - landmarks

25. In the context of the contemporary United States, a strip mall shopping center best exemplifies which of the following types of landscape?
- (A) Ordinary landscape
  - (B) Sacred landscape
  - (C) Tragic landscape
  - (D) Derelict landscape
  - (E) Industrial landscape
26. The forced dispersion of Jews from their ethnic homeland, which took place across many centuries, is a prominent example of
- (A) stimulus diffusion
  - (B) diaspora
  - (C) pilgrimage
  - (D) globalization
  - (E) receptivity
27. Which of the following best describes the *site* of Mexico City?
- (A) The most important financial and political center in Mexico
  - (B) An urban area located approximately two hours from Houston, Texas, by airplane
  - (C) A highland valley and dry lakebed located on a high plateau in southern central Mexico
  - (D) The federal district of Mexico
  - (E) An important node in a global system of flows of goods, information, and people
28. Which of the following examples best illustrates the concept of cognitive distance?
- (A) Distance expressed in terms of the amount of money it costs to travel from one place to another
  - (B) Distance measured in terms of miles or kilometers
  - (C) Distance measured in terms of minutes or hours
  - (D) Distance expressed in terms of the perceived amount of space separating one place from another
  - (E) Distance expressed in terms of how far the average person can walk in one day
29. In cartography, parallels refer to
- (A) lines of latitude
  - (B) meridians
  - (C) the scale of the map
  - (D) lines of longitude
  - (E) the alignment of the poles
30. Which of the following examples is least likely to be perceived as a path of cognitive space?
- (A) A navigable river
  - (B) An interstate highway
  - (C) A running trail
  - (D) A sidewalk
  - (E) An impenetrable forest
31. Which of the following pairs of states possess territory along the Strait of Gibraltar?
- (A) Russia and China
  - (B) Tunisia and Italy
  - (C) Spain and Morocco
  - (D) Australia and New Zealand
  - (E) Chile and Argentina
32. Thematic maps that employ a range of color tones to illustrate how particular values vary across predefined areas, such as counties, provinces, or states, are referred to as
- (A) dot maps
  - (B) choropleth maps
  - (C) proportional symbol maps
  - (D) isoline maps
  - (E) cartograms
33. Curves on a topographic map that are used to illustrate specific values of elevation above or below sea level are known as
- (A) district lines
  - (B) latitudinal lines
  - (C) transmission lines
  - (D) contour lines
  - (E) longitudinal lines

34. A travel agency surveys 100 adults in the local area regarding their travel habits. Among the findings, the travel agency discovers that 90 percent of survey participants indicate that they are willing to travel between 100 and 200 miles to attend a family reunion. However, beyond a distance of 200 miles, the percentage of survey participants willing to travel to a family reunion plummets to under 30 percent. Within this context, 200 miles represents a(n)
- (A) pull factor
  - (B) critical distance
  - (C) intervening opportunity
  - (D) push factor
  - (E) regional bias
35. Map projections that preserve and accurately represent the *shape* of the geographical areas and features are said to be
- (A) conformal
  - (B) equidistant
  - (C) equal-area
  - (D) azimuthal
  - (E) useless
36. Which of the following geometric map projections would be most appropriate for producing a world map in which the equatorial zone is least distorted?
- (A) Cylindrical
  - (B) Conical
  - (C) Planar
  - (D) Azimuthal
  - (E) Pseudoconical
37. The cardinal points north, east, south, and west correspond to
- (A) relative location
  - (B) absolute distance
  - (C) absolute location
  - (D) relative distance
  - (E) absolute direction
38. Which of the following fields of study is *least associated* with human geography?
- (A) Psychology
  - (B) Cultural ecology
  - (C) Sociology
  - (D) Geomorphology
  - (E) Political science
39. *Accessibility* and *connectivity* are two interrelated ways to describe
- (A) absolute locations
  - (B) spatial concentrations
  - (C) relative directions
  - (D) geographical sites
  - (E) spatial interactions
40. Relative to lines of latitude near the equator, lines of latitude near the poles are
- (A) longer
  - (B) straighter
  - (C) shorter
  - (D) wider
  - (E) more accurate
41. The geographical concept of a *network* is an important tool in human geography for describing complex spatial interactions, particularly those that have been created or modified by globalization.
- (A) Define a network.
  - (B) Briefly explain how each of the following four terms relate to the concept of a network: *mobility*, *diffusion*, *interdependence*, and *situational*.
  - (C) Briefly explain why networks are particularly relevant tools for describing spatial interactions in a globalized era. Cite two real-world examples to help illustrate your explanation.

42. The concept of *placelessness* was coined in human geography in the 1970s to describe places that feel inauthentic or lack a unique sense of identity. Many geographers theorize that a sense of placelessness is becoming more prevalent among people living in modern, highly developed societies. Discuss how each of the following has contributed to this sense of placelessness in developed societies.

- (A) Popular culture
- (B) Industrialization
- (C) Globalization
- (D) Mobility

## CHAPTER

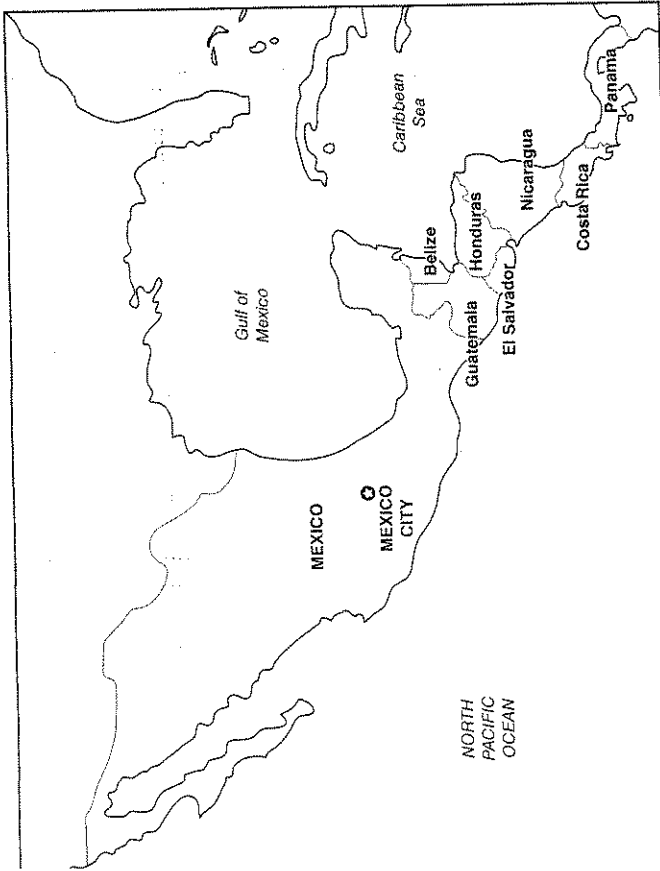
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## Populati

43. An example of a country with a population pyramid that has a large base is
- (A) Japan
  - (B) Germany
  - (C) Nigeria
  - (D) United States
  - (E) Russia
44. The demographic transition model suggests that as countries industrialize
- (A) in-migration increases over time
  - (B) migration increases from rural to urban areas
  - (C) birth and death rates decrease over time
  - (D) life expectancy decreases over time
  - (E) fertility rates increase over time
45. The first stage of the demographic transition model indicates that
- (A) total population is low and constant with high birth rates and low death rates
  - (B) total population is low and constant with low birth rates and high death rates
  - (C) total population is increasing with high birth rates and low death rates
  - (D) total population is low and constant with high birth rates and high death rates
  - (E) total population is low and constant with low birth rates and low death rates
46. Which of the following is not a contributing factor to the low birth rates in stage four of the demographic transition model?
- (A) Less dependence on child labor
  - (B) Reliance on subsistence agriculture
  - (C) The education of women
  - (D) Availability of health care
  - (E) Increased sanitation

## Chapter 1: Key Geography Concepts

1. (D) A ratio of the number of items within a defined unit of area measures density. For example, human population density is typically measured according to the number of inhabitants per square mile or square kilometer of land. Because it is a ratio of quantity per unit of area, density always expresses a relative value.
2. (C) The *site* of Manhattan is best described as an island bordered by the Hudson and East Rivers. Site refers to a place's absolute location, often described in terms of its physical geography. Situation, on the other hand, refers to a place's location relative to external social relations, systems, or networks. All other available choices describe Manhattan's situation relative to other places.
3. (B) Spatial coordinates of latitude and longitude express absolute location. Absolute location identifies a place according to a standardized system of mathematical coordinates. Relative location, on the other hand, identifies a place in relation to some other place. For example, the absolute location of Chicago is  $41^{\circ}$  north and  $87^{\circ}$  west, while its location relative to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, would be 90 miles south on Interstate 94.
4. (A) Distribution refers to the spatial arrangement of items or features within a given area. For instance, a map indicating the location of each national park in the United States would demonstrate how these parks are spatially distributed throughout the country. Spatial arrangements of certain items or features can be described in terms of even or uneven distributions across space. In the case that many items are located close to one another, it is possible to say that these items are clustered together.
5. (E) A method for representing the three-dimensional surface of the earth on a two-dimensional map is known as projection. There are many different methods of map projection, including cylindrical, conical, and azimuthal projections. However, no single method of projection perfectly represents the three-dimensional surface of the earth.
6. (C) A subjective image of an area informed by individual perceptions and experiences in that area is known as a mental map. Unlike other kinds of maps, which are typically material representations shared by multiple users, mental maps are highly personal images about a place composed of subjective perceptions, memories, biases, and feelings.
7. (B) The notion that the physical environment offers certain constraints and opportunities that influence cultural practices without entirely determining them is known as possibilism. This idea stands contrary to the antiquated theory of environmental determinism, which posited that the physical environment absolutely determines how cultural practices develop in a given place. Possibilism, on the other hand, suggests that the physical environment offers certain possibilities that influence how a culture develops without absolutely determining this course of development.



- (A) Examine the location of Mexico City, or the Federal District, in relation to Mexico's other cities. Explain Mexico City's geographic limitations as a hub for Mexico's national commodity chain.
- (B) Provide examples of two ways that economic ties between Mexico City and two of the larger cities in Texas, Houston and San Antonio, allow Mexico City's influence to spread to the United States.
- (C) Identify three ways that Mexico City's location allows it to remain an urban node for production, trade, and finances to link North American and Central American markets.

500. City, local, state, and federal governments often must work to provide housing for individuals who are priced out of urban housing markets.
  - (A) Describe the types of housing governments should create for the following low-income groups: single-parent families, aging seniors, and single individuals with service-sector jobs.
  - (B) Provide examples of three ways that a city government could generate funds to improve existing affordable housing units.
  - (C) Explain three consequences of failing to build enough affordable housing for a large metropolitan area. These consequences may be social, economic, political, or environmental.

8. (A) Culture is an abstract concept in human geography that broadly refers to human practices, beliefs, and behaviors that are specific to a place or region and that are created, shared, and/or altered over time. Cultures vary from place to place, converge and diverge over time, diffuse across space, and express human adaptations and innovations. Importantly, however, the transmission of culture is *not* biologically inherited. Rather, it is socially learned, or acquired.
9. (C) Globalization best illustrates the concept of cultural convergence because both ideas directly express processes in which diverse cultures become more similar and interrelated over time. Indeed, contemporary processes of globalization may be thought of as a modern-day instance of cultural convergence, in which the global diffusion of shared technologies and organizational structures is making different cultures more alike.
10. (D) The idea that material innovations, such as new technologies, diffuse more rapidly than newly exposed cultures can respond to them best illustrates the idea of cultural lag. Cultural lag describes this temporal delay between the arrival of a new innovation to a place and the ability of the local culture to adequately respond and adapt to this change. The arrival of a new technology to a place often poses significant cultural challenges, ranging from a lack of formal knowledge to potential ethical or religious conflicts that the new technology could create.
11. (C) The principle of distance decay describes a negative correlation between distance and degree of relation. Distance decay states that as the distance between two places *increases*, the intensity of relations between these places will *decrease*. For instance, distance decay theory assumes that a pair of towns 5 miles apart will have more in common than a pair of towns 500 miles apart. Therefore, the association between distance and degree of relation in distance decay theory is a negative correlation.
12. (E) The particular conditions that compel individuals or groups to migrate from one place to another are commonly referred to as push and pull factors. Push factors refer to the specific reasons that motivate an individual or group to leave a particular place. Pull factors, on the other hand, refer to the conditions in a new place that attract migrants to relocate to this place in particular.
13. (B) Economic and/or political associations that are comprised of multiple, autonomous member states that cooperate to achieve a common purpose are known as supranational organizations. Supranational means that the organization takes place at a level higher than the nation-state without threatening the autonomy, or independence, of each member nation-state. Some common examples of supranational organizations include the European Union (EU), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).
14. (D) New Orleans is the city that describes a site along the Mississippi River and a situation as a primary port for offshore petroleum production in the Gulf of Mexico. While St. Louis and Minneapolis are cities sited along the Mississippi River, their situations are not as primary ports for offshore petroleum production, given their distance from the Gulf of Mexico. Alternatively, while Mobile and Houston are situated as ports for offshore petroleum production in the Gulf of Mexico, they are not sites along the Mississippi River.

15. (A) The ability to travel and communicate over greater distances in shorter amounts of time, due to technological innovations such as the airplane, automobile, telephone, and Internet, represents the idea of time-space compression. Time-space compression describes how new communication and transportation technologies, such as the examples above, radically alter the way humans experience time and space. Typically this experience is one in which time seems to accelerate and distance becomes a less formidable barrier.
16. (C) Latitude describes the location of a place in terms of its angular distance north or south of the equator. Like the rungs of a ladder, lines of latitude wrap horizontally around the earth and run parallel to the equator. Lines of latitude measure distances north or south of the equator, whereas lines of longitude measure distances east and west of the Prime Meridian.
17. (E) During the process of mapmaking, shape, area, distance, and direction are all liable to become distorted. Unfortunately, there is no absolutely perfect way to project the three-dimensional surface of the earth onto a flat, two-dimensional surface. With every projection, either shape, area, distance, direction, or a combination of these inevitably become distorted. However, the location of geographical features relative to one another should not be affected during the mapmaking process.
18. (A) The Prime Meridian, which passes through Greenwich, England, is equivalent to the line of 0° longitude. This location of the Prime Meridian is purely an arbitrary social convention, established among the scientific community in the late 19th century, in order to create a standardized system for determining the absolute location of things on the earth's surface.
19. (D) The geographical region whose center is located along the equator and whose area extends roughly 23° north and south of the equator is known as the tropical zone. The region, which wraps broadly around the equator, is also commonly referred to as the tropics or the torrid zone. The outer limits of this region are delimited by the Tropic of Cancer in the Northern Hemisphere and the Tropic of Capricorn in the Southern Hemisphere. It is not correct to call the tropics a rainforest region because rainforests are not exclusive to the region. Rather, rainforests extend well beyond the limits of the tropics. Rainforests that occur outside of the tropical zone are referred to as temperate rainforests.
20. (B) The term *scale* refers to a ratio between distances portrayed on a map and actual distances on the earth's surface that correspond to this map. To be useful, every map must include a scale that provides a corresponding ratio between distance on the map and actual distance on the earth's surface. An example of a map scale could be one inch on a map equals one mile on the actual surface of the earth.
21. (D) Processes of globalization, which result in the growth of global interconnections and interdependencies, are most closely associated with capitalism. Capitalism is a prevalent socioeconomic system that is characterized by private ownership, free enterprise, and profit motives. It is closely associated with globalization because capitalist expansion into new geographies of production and consumption are often cited as drivers behind the growth of global interconnections and interdependencies.



22. (E) A subfield of geography that deals holistically with the environmental and human attributes of a particular territory is known as regional geography. Regional geographers endeavor to understand how physical and cultural geographical features interrelate to form distinct regions, or spatial territories, whose attributes are uniquely different from other parts of the world. One example of a prominent regional approach would be Latin American geography.
23. (C) Remote sensing most directly refers to geographical techniques that collect information about the earth's surface from distanced, or remote, perspectives. Remote sensing actually refers to a variety of techniques that capture data about the earth's surface from a distance. Remote-sensing techniques include satellite imagery and aerial photography, to cite two examples. While geographic information systems, or GIS, often incorporate data gathered through remote-sensing techniques, they encompass a broader range of tools and techniques than remote sensing alone.
24. (C) In cognitive space, perceived boundaries such as frontiers, horizons, borders, and shorelines are known as edges. Edges typically signify the outer limits of a particular place or region that distinguish it as finite and distinctive.
25. (A) In the context of the contemporary United States, a strip mall shopping center best exemplifies an ordinary landscape. Ordinary landscapes include scenes and spaces of daily life that individuals encounter on a regular basis and that often become a taken-for-granted aspect of their experience of the world.
26. (B) The forced dispersion of Jews from their ethnic homeland, which took place across many centuries, is a prominent example of diaspora. A diaspora describes the dispersion of an ethnic group from its homeland, typically as the result of direct or indirect outside forces that cause members of the group to relocate.
27. (C) The *site* of Mexico City is best described as a highland valley and dry lakebed located on a high plateau in southern central Mexico. While the remaining selections all accurately characterize Mexico City, they describe its situation rather than its site. Site refers to a place's local physical and environmental characteristics, while situation refers to a place's location relative to other places as well as its social significance in regional, national, or international contexts.
28. (D) Distance expressed in terms of the perceived amount of space separating one place from another best illustrates the concept of cognitive distance. Cognitive distance describes a highly subjective perception of distance that varies from person to person and from context to context. For instance, being able to pick up the phone to connect to someone living thousands of miles away tends to reduce the cognitive distance perceived to separate these two places.
29. (A) In cartography, parallels refer to lines of latitude. Lines of latitude, which encircle the earth along an east-west axis, are often referred to as parallels because they are perfectly parallel to one another. Unlike lines of longitude, which converge at the North and South Poles, lines of latitude never converge or intersect with one another.
30. (E) An impenetrable forest is least likely, among these selections, to be perceived as a path in cognitive space. Paths describe spatial passages or conduits that facilitate movement rather than inhibiting it such as a thick, impenetrable forest would suggest. An impenetrable forest is more likely to be perceived as an edge, or boundary, in cognitive space.
31. (C) Spain and Morocco are the only states that possess territory located along the Strait of Gibraltar. The Strait of Gibraltar is a narrow oceanic waterway that links the Atlantic Ocean, to the west, with the Mediterranean Sea, to the east. It also separates Spain, to the north, from Morocco, to the south.
32. (B) Thematic maps that employ a range of color tones to illustrate how particular values vary across predefined areas, such as counties, provinces, or states, are referred to as choropleth maps. A basic example would be a presidential election map of the United States in which each of the 50 states is colored either red or blue, according to which political party candidate received the majority of votes in each state.
33. (D) Curves on a topographic map that are used to illustrate specific values of elevation above or below sea level are known as contour lines. Topographical contours are typically irregularly shaped lines that connect points of equal elevation. Contour lines also illustrate the relative slope of elevation between various points. For instance, the slope between two points separated by ten contour lines would be greater than the slope between two points separated by only one or two contour lines.
34. (B) Within the context of this data, 200 miles represents a critical distance. A critical distance is a threshold of distance beyond which the requisite travel costs or efforts are too great to make the journey viable or worthwhile for an individual or group.
35. (A) Map projections that preserve and accurately represent the *shape* of the geographical areas and features are said to be conformal.
36. (A) A cylindrical map projection would be most appropriate for producing a world map in which the equatorial zone is least distorted. As the name suggests, cylindrical projections represent the globe as if it were enclosed within a cylinder, much like the thought of placing a tennis ball inside an empty soup can, then peeling off the soup can label to derive a two-dimensional image of the globe inside. In this example, the cylindrical surface is closest to the globe at its midregion, the earth's equator, where the globe is the greatest in circumference. Another way to state this relationship would be to say that the cylindrical projection is usually *tangent* to the earth's equator. Because cylindrical projections are typically tangent to the earth's equator, the middle latitudes are typically less distorted than the higher and lower latitudes in cylindrical projections.
37. (E) The cardinal points north, east, south, and west correspond to absolute directions. Their directions are absolute because they are based on physical astronomical and geographical phenomena, such as the movement of the sun and the stars, which do not vary from place to place or culture to culture.
38. (D) Geomorphology, which is the study of landforms and landform processes, is the field of study that is *least associated* with human geography among the choices provided.

Geomorphology is more closely aligned to physical geography. Human geography, on the other hand, is aligned with a variety of human-centered fields of study, including political science, anthropology, sociology, history, economics, cultural ecology, psychology, linguistics, religious studies, gender studies, urban planning, and demography.

**39. (E)** *Accessibility* and *connectivity* are two interrelated ways to describe spatial interactions between two or more objects distributed throughout space. *Accessibility* refers to the relative distance separating things in space, as well as the relative costs or difficulties inherent to accessing something in space. *Connectivity* refers to the quality of relations between two or more objects in space.

**40. (C)** Relative to lines of latitude near the equator, lines of latitude near the poles are shorter. This is the case because the overall circumference of the earth is smaller near the poles than at its center, near the equator.

**41. (A)** A network is a spatial domain of nodes, or places, that are integrated into a unified and functional system by a common set of linkages, routes, or connections.

**(B)** A network describes orderly flows of information, goods, or people that circulate between the various nodes in the system's domain. In this way it describes regular patterns of *mobility* between a set of determinate places. These patterns of movement describe how flows of information, goods, or people *diffuse* from place to place along preexisting routes or linkages that direct these flows in orderly and predictable directions. Also, because a network is defined as a functional system of nodes and linkages, or places and routes, it implies that each of these parts are *interdependent* on one another to keep flows of information, goods, or people circulating within the network. If one node or linkage breaks down, the entire flow of the network is also likely to become disrupted. Similarly, the network concept implies a system of relations between different places, so each is spatially *situated* in a unique position relative to the others. For instance, a place or node located closer to the middle of the network could be said to be more centrally located than a place or node located on the periphery.

**(C)** Networks are particularly relevant tools for describing spatial interactions in a globalized era because they are capable of representing complex, functional interrelationships and interdependencies among a growing number of places scattered across the globe. For instance, whereas all the parts for an automobile might have been manufactured in one factory 50 years ago, today the various parts of an automobile might be manufactured in dozens of different factories around the world. Given this complexity, a network diagram would be capable of demonstrating how an automobile's chain of production flows through many different factories in a globalized system of automobile manufacturing. Similarly, during a globalized era in which personal and professional social ties are becoming *more* distanced and *less* place-based, virtual social networks provide an effective approach for understanding the spatial complexities of any particular individual's social linkages.

**42.** Many geographers theorize that a sense of placelessness is becoming a common way that people relate to their surroundings in modern, highly developed societies. While this theory is difficult to verify, there are many rationales to support it. First, with the rise of *industrialization*, it has become possible for attributes of place to become mass-produced in

developed societies. For example, before industrialization in the United States, homes were individually crafted and built by hand so that no two were exactly alike. However, following industrialization, residential building components began to be mass-produced, resulting in the homogenization of home designs in the United States. This homogenization could support the idea of placelessness because it results in the dwindling uniqueness of certain features of places, like homes. Second, with the growth of mass communications, *popular cultures*, which exist across national and international scales, can be seen to be replacing *vernacular* or *folk cultures*, which previously existed across local and regional scales. As a result, the distinctiveness of different places has diminished as cultural tastes and preferences have become more popularized and mainstream. For instance, because of the widespread diffusion of mass communications such as the television, evidence suggests that local regional dialects are becoming less common and standard dialects more common. An example could support the idea of placelessness because it suggests that one could travel to different regions of a developed society, such as the United States, and not get a sense of the distinctions that previously gave different places and regions a unique sense of identity. Third, with processes of *globalization*, places spread out across the globe generally becoming more interdependent and interrelated socioeconomically. As a result of globalization, it is now possible to travel to different world cities and find the same transnational corporate enterprises such as restaurants, retail stores, banks, and hotels. This contributes to a sense of placelessness because one can conceivably be in Tokyo or New York and frequent the same corporate establishments, which, from the inside, are virtually indistinguishable. Finally, with an increase in *mobility* in highly developed societies, people are less rooted in particular places than in the past. For instance, whereas 100 years ago the average person spent his or her entire life in one place, nowadays it is not uncommon for the average person to relocate several times throughout his or her lifetime. This general increase in mobility has arguably weakened the strong attachments to home and an attendant sense of place. In general, these four developments of industrialization, widespread popular cultures, globalization, and an increase in mobility may all be used to support the theory that a sense of placelessness is becoming a more common way that people relate to their surroundings in highly developed, modern societies.

## Chapter 2: Population

**43. (C)** Nigeria is a country experiencing rapid population growth and has a high percentage of young people approaching or at child-bearing age. The population pyramid of a wide base reflects the high percentage of young people. Japan, Germany, and Russia are all experiencing zero population growth, which would result in a narrow base of a population pyramid. The United States is experiencing slow population growth resulting in a slightly larger base that remains relatively constant throughout the ages until slightly decreasing at the top of the pyramid.

**44. (C)** According to the four stages of the demographic transition model, as countries industrialize, birth and death rates decrease over time due to increased access to health education (particularly among women), and other social changes.

**45. (D)** The first stage of the demographic transition model indicates that total population is low and constant due to high birth and death rates. This is common in preindustrial societies.