

Seventh Grade World Geography – Semester 1

- I. 5 fields of learning that contribute to Social Studies
 - A. Geography
 - i. Orientation of space and location
 - B. History
 - i. Orientation of time
 - C. Economics – managing resources
 - i. Natural resources
 - ii. Human resources
 - iii. Capital resources
 - D. Government
 - i. Limited governments
 - ii. Unlimited governments
 - iii. Citizenship
 - E. Culture
 - i. Culture Traits
- II. Culture regions
 - A. How regions change and evolve over time
- III. Interdependence
 - A. Transportation
 - B. Communication
- IV. Time Zones
 - A. History and evolution
 - B. International Date Line
 - C. Greenwich
 - D. Earth rotation and sun relationship
- V. World Economic Systems (Africa, Asia and Southwest Pacific)
 - A. Types of Economic Systems
 - i. Market
 - ii. Command
 - iii. Traditional
 - iv. Mixed
 - B. How basic economic questions are answered in each Economic System
 - i. What to produce
 - ii. How to produce
 - iii. For whom to produce
- VI. Basic Physical Geography
 - A. Landforms and water forms
- VII. Latitude and Longitude
 - A. Using absolute and relative location when identifying cities on a map

- VIII. Identifying Regions
 - A. Physical and cultural sub-regions of Africa, Asia and Southwest Pacific
 - B. Comparing and contrasting sub-regions
- IX. Population Growth and Life Expectancy
 - A. How Population Growth and Life Expectancy are determined
 - B. Why Population Growth and Life Expectancy vary among countries in Africa, Asia and Southwest Pacific
 - i. Birth rate
 - ii. Death rate
 - iii. Standard of Living
 - iv. Availability of resources
 - v. Climate
- X. Population Density
 - A. How Population Density is determined
 - B. Contributing factors to Population Density
 - i. Climate
 - ii. Physical features
 - iii. Resources
 - iv. Arable land
 - v. Water
 - C. Compare Population Densities of countries in Asia, Africa and Southwest Pacific
- XI. Physical Geography of North Africa and Southwest Asia
 - A. Major landforms and water bodies in North Africa and Southwest Asia
- XII. Political boundaries of North Africa and Southwest Asia
 - A. Location of the countries in North Africa and Southwest Asia
- XIII. Ancient Mesopotamia
 - A. The physical surroundings of Mesopotamia
 - B. First inhabitants of Mesopotamia
 - i. Sumarians
 - ii. City – states
 - iii. Roles of priests and kings in the government of city-states
 - C. Religion
 - i. Ziggurats
 - D. Class system in Mesopotamia
 - i. Kings, priests and wealthy landowners
 - ii. Skilled workers, merchants, and farmers
 - iii. Slaves
 - E. Written Language
 - i. Cuneiform
 - ii. Scribes
 - iii. Gilgamesh
- XIV. Ancient Egypt
 - A. The importance of the Nile River to Ancient Egypt
 - i. Yearly flooding

- ii. Papyrus
 - iii. Transportation
 - iv. Trade
 - B. How and why pyramids were built
 - C. The importance of religion in ancient Egypt
 - i. The pharaoh
 - ii. Re and Horus
 - iii. The Egyptian afterlife
 - D. Government of ancient Egypt
 - E. Comparison of Sumerian cuneiform and Egyptian hieroglyphics
- XV. Middle East-Birthplace of three Religions
 - A. The origin of Judaism and how the religion changed over time
 - i. Hebrew people
 - ii. Abraham
 - iii. Yahweh
 - iv. The story of exile
 - B. Origins of Christianity
 - i. Jesus' early life and the beginning of Christianity
 - C. Origins of Islam
 - i. How the revelations of Muhammad were collected in the Koran
 - ii. 5 Pillars of Islam
 - iii. Importance of the Caliph and the caliphates
 - iv. Theocracy
 - D. Muslim Empires
 - i. Spread of Islam through trade and conquest
 - ii. Islam in Europe
 - iii. The rise of the Ottoman Empire
 - iv. Suleiman I
 - E. The decline of the Ottoman Empire
 - i. Industrialized Europe
 - ii. World War I
- XVI. Development of written language
 - A. Compare and analyze the development of written languages, including Phoenician, Sumerian, Egyptian, and Cyrillic
- XVII. Influence of Muslim civilizations in the Eastern Hemisphere
 - A. Religion
 - B. Language
 - C. Trade
 - D. Art
- XVIII. Conflicts in Southwest Asia
 - A. European control
 - i. Mandates
 - B. Independence in the region
 - C. The political conflict over Palestine
 - i. Arab-Israeli Wars
 - ii. Palestinian Liberation Organization

- iii. Gaza
 - iv. Golan Heights
 - v. Sinai Peninsula
 - vi. Jerusalem
- D. The conflicts caused by religious and ethnic differences among peoples in the region
 - i. Jews and Muslims
 - ii. Christians and Muslim
 - iii. Sunni and Shi'ites
 - iv. Arab and Persian
 - v. Kurds
 - vi. Fundamentalism
- E. Causes and effects of the Iran-Iraq War
- F. Causes and effects of the Persian Gulf War
- G. Causes and effects of the U.S.- Iraq War
- XIX. Influence of resources and religion in Southwest Asia
 - A. The relationship between oil and politics
 - i. OPEC
 - B. The role of religion in the region
 - C. Major fundamentalist groups
- XX. Egypt's modernization
 - A. Foreign control
 - B. Government changes
 - C. Major events in modern Egypt's history
 - i. Gamal Abdel Nasser
 - ii. Aswan High Dam
 - iii. Women's rights
 - iv. Anwar Sadat
 - v. Hosni Mubarak
 - D. Egyptian Culture
- XXI. How Israel's current problems stem from history
 - A. Zionism as the movement for a Jewish homeland in Palestine
 - B. Law of Return
- XXII. Culture blend in Turkey
 - A. Modern European and traditional Islamic ways
 - B. The influence of Mustafa Kemal
 - C. How modernization changed life in Turkey
 - D. Civil rights issues in present-day Turkey
 - E. Turkey's relationship with NATO and the European Union

Seventh Grade World Geography – Semester 2

- XXI. Cause and Effect relationships
 - A. How to figure out a cause, when given an effect

- B. How to figure an effect, when given a cause
- C. Events have multiple causes and are influenced by different beliefs and events

XXII. Cultural Diffusion

- A. What is Cultural Diffusion
- B. Influence the Arabic language has had on the English language

XXIII. Ethnocentrism

- A. Define Ethnocentrism
- B. How this attitude can lead to cultural misunderstandings
- C. Conflicts between culture groups/nations
- D. Historical and geographical background of conflicts

XXIV. Geography of Africa South of the Sahara

A. Landforms

- i. Mt. Kilimanjaro
- ii. African plateau
- iii. Great Rift Valley
- iv. Mt. Kenya

B. Waterway

- i. Lake Tanganyika
- ii. Lake Victoria
- iii. Nile River
- iv. Okavango River
- v. Zambezi River
- vi. Victoria Falls

C. Desert Regions

- i. Sahara
- ii. Namib
- iii. Kalahari
- iv. Sahel

D. Congo Basin

E. Savannas

XXV. African Empires

- A. Development of Sub-Saharan civilizations in Africa
- B. Bantu migration
- C. Salt Trade
- D. Major Empires of West Africa
 - i. Ghana
 - ii. Mali
 - iii. Songhai

XXVI. Colonialism in Africa

- A. European colonialism in Africa
- B. Effects of European traders on the African slave trade
- C. Impact of colonial rule in Africa
 - i. Hutu vs. Tutsi

- XXVII. African Independence
 - A. Nationalism as the root of Africa's independence movement
 - B. Selected nation's path to independence
 - C. Restrictions of South Africa's independence
 - i. Apartheid
- XXVIII. African Nations
 - A. Route to independence
 - B. Government
 - C. Economy
 - D. Conflicts
- XXIX. History and Governments of Eastern and Southern African Nations
 - A. Trade empires that developed in Eastern and Southern Africa
 - i. Aksum
 - ii. Shona
 - iii. Great Zimbabwe
 - iv. Masai
 - v. Zulu
 - B. Establishment of independent nations in Eastern and Southern Africa
 - i. Government of Somalia
 - ii. Government of Rwanda
 - C. Economies of Eastern and Southern African Nations
 - i. Agriculture
 - ii. Pastoralism
 - iii. Fishing
 - iv. U.S. aid
 - D. Cultures of Eastern and Southern African Nations
 - i. Cultural aspects of Eastern and Southern Africa
 - ii. Music
 - iii. Religions followed in the region
- XXX. Location of nations in Eastern and Southern Africa.
 - A. Political features in Southern and Eastern Africa
- XXXI. Population Distribution
 - A. How climate and landforms place restrictions on land use in regions of Africa, Asia and Southwest Pacific and how population distribution reflects these restrictions
- XXXII. Standard of Living
 - A. What is standard of living
 - B. What is Gross Domestic Product and how is it determined
 - C. Compare the standard of living of various countries in Africa, Asia and Southwest Pacific using Gross Domestic Product per capita
- XXXIII. Physical Geography of Southern Asia
 - A. Physical features of Southern Asia
 - i. Himalaya mountains
 - ii. Hindu Kush mountains
 - iii. Karakoram mountains

- iv. Khyber Pass
- v. Ganges River
- vi. Ganges River Delta
- vii. Western and Eastern Ghats
- viii. Atolls and archipelagos
- B. Regions of Southern Asia
 - i. Northern Mountain Rim
 - ii. Northern Plains
 - iii. Deccan Plateau
 - iv. Mainland Southeast Asia
 - v. Islands of Southeast Asia
- C. Climate
 - i. Monsoon Cycle
- XXXIV. Ancient India
 - A. Indus river valley civilization
 - i. Harappa civilization
 - ii. Mohenjo-Daro
 - B. The Aryans influence in South Asia
 - i. Sanskrit language
 - ii. Technology
 - C. Origins of Hinduism and its practices
 - i. Aryan beliefs
 - ii. Vedas
 - iii. Karma
 - iv. Reincarnation
 - v. Caste System
 - D. Maurya and Gupta Dynasties
 - i. Architecture
 - ii. Mathematics
- XXXV. Cultural influences in South and Southeast Asia
 - A. Why Southeast Asia was a crossroads of trade and culture
 - B. Teachings of Buddhism
 - i. Siddhartha Gautama
 - ii. Four Noble Truths
 - iii. Eightfold Path
 - C. How Indian culture influenced Southeast Asia
 - i. Hinduism
 - ii. Buddhism
 - D. Impact of Islam on India and nations of South Asia
 - E. History of the Mughal Empire
 - F. British Influence
 - G. Indian Independence
 - i. Mohandas Gandhi
 - ii. Indian National Congress
 - iii. Muslim League
 - iv. India and Pakistan

- XXXVI. Early civilizations of Indus River Valley and Huang-He River Valley
 - A. How did the early civilization of the Indus River Valley in Southeast Asia compare with the Huang-He civilization of China
- XXXVII. Multiple Perspectives
 - A. Multiple perspectives on a current events relating to Asia, Africa and Southwest Pacific
- XXXVIII. Chinese Dynasties
 - A. Developments during the Tang, Song and Ming Dynasties in China
 - i. Spread of Buddhism
 - ii. Civil service exams
 - iii. Paper money
 - iv. Block printing
 - v. Moveable type
 - vi. Gun powder
 - vii. Porcelain
 - viii. Silk
 - B. Mongols in China
 - i. Kublai Khan
 - ii. Genghis Khan
- XXXIX. Japanese Heritage
 - E. Independence from Chinese influence
 - F. Feudal Japan
 - i. Shogunates and Shoguns
 - ii. Kamakura Shogunate
 - iii. Ashikaga Shogunate
 - iv. Tokugawa Shogunate
 - v. Samurai culture
- XL. Social Status
 - C. How social status helped determine roles in African and Asian societies in the past and compare with ideas about social status today
 - i. How social status determined the role of an individual in ancient Egypt and Japan
 - ii. Factors that determine our social status today
 - iii. How a minority of people can hold the power in a society