

May 2024

Dear AP Human Geography student,

Welcome to AP Human Geography, one of the most interesting and relevant courses you will take at BSM--according to past geo students anyway)! You will use the knowledge you learn in this class in future general and AP classes. You will also look at the world around you in different ways.

Your summer assignment includes the following three parts.

<u>Summer Assignment, Quick Glance</u> (see text below for details).	
1.	History Videos & notes (4 videos total, 2 ½ hours)
2.	Intro to Human Geography: Case Study on India: reading & notes
3.	Map Test on the United States & on AP Regions.

**1. Obtaining some historical background.** Geographers ask three primary questions: Where is it located, why is it located there, and why is it important? Often the “why” relates to history. So, to help with our study of geography, part of your summer assignment will be reviewing major historical events that relate to our study of geography.

There will be around 2 hours of video clips to watch. You will want to take notes on the key characteristics of the event: what happened, why it happened, and why it was significant (i.e. what changed because of the event). Please note the what and significance often have more than one reason. There is a note-taking guide attached to this letter to assist you.

The videos should be accessed using Edpuzzle ([www.edpuzzle.com](http://www.edpuzzle.com)). Please let me know if you have any issues accessing these; I am happy to help and will be checking my email throughout the summer. Use this [link](#) to join Edpuzzle & watch these videos.

Watch the videos in this order:

- World History overview
- History of the World Age of Industry (both parts)
- Africa: States of Independence

**2. Intro reading and handwritten notes. Use [THIS LINK FOR THE READING](#).**

Take handwritten notes on the reading (see link for reading, see the following pages in this letter for a partial note taking guide.

The readings assigned for summer are typical of what we will read over 1 ½ weeks. Do not just search for the definitions and answers to the specific questions...read the textbook. You will need to learn to read and absorb information from your textbook to do well in this class. Be sure to include details and examples in your notes. Include both general geography information and information about India in your notes. Don't forget to read the picture captions and take notes on that information as well.

If you do not have access to a printer, you may recreate the note-taking guides in this packet on loose-leaf paper.

Some of you have more notetaking experience than others, don't worry. We will spend time together in September reviewing various note-taking strategies. To help you with your summer assignment, I have provided a detailed note-taking guide for *half of the assignment (you will need to create the other half)*. Please review the note taking tips on page 4. Once we have reviewed various strategies this fall, you will have the freedom to choose the method best for you.

3. **Map Work:** Geographers look at the world spatially—they look and discuss the distribution of phenomena (i.e. birth rates) across the world and look for patterns. In order to analyze and discuss these patterns, it is important you know the basics of where countries and US states are located in the world. Thus, by the end of the year, you will know where the majority of countries are located in the world, and where all 50 states are located. To start us off, you will need to memorize the 50 U.S. states over the summer as well as the AP Human Geography world regions.

- Go to <https://lizardpoint.com/geography/usa-quiz.php> to use an online quiz program to test yourself.
- Memorize the AP Human Geography World Regions maps—both “a big picture view” and “a closer look.” See page 3.
- Memorize the following oceans, significant lines of latitude & longitude, and continents:

OCEANS: Arctic, Atlantic, Indian, Pacific, Southern

SIGNIFICANT LINES OF LATITUDE & LONGITUDE: Prime Meridian, Equator, International Date Line, Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn, Arctic Circle, Antarctic Circle

CONTINENTS: Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, South America

4. OPTIONAL Documentary on China & [One Pager Assignment](#)--summative grade. Step 4 is not required, but encouraged if you have time. This documentary will give you background knowledge about China, another country we will study a lot this year.

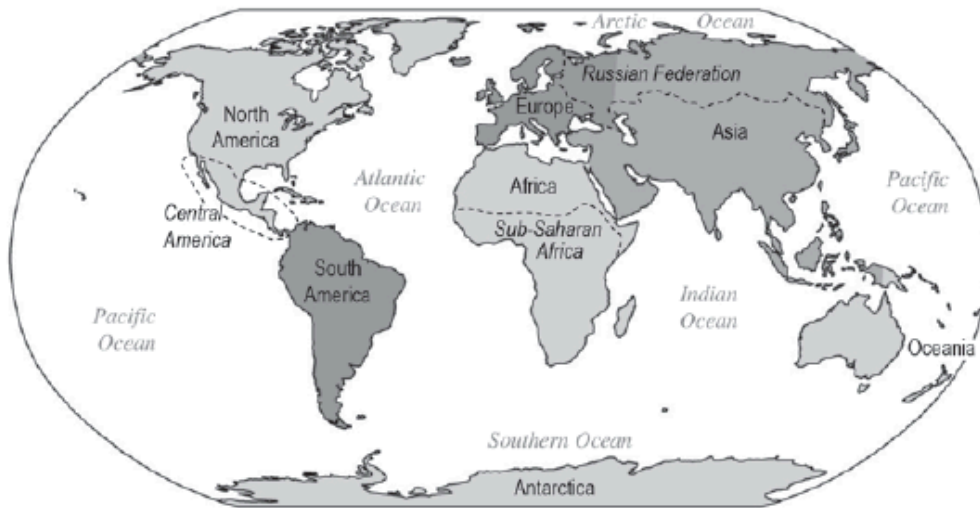
The summer assignment is due on the first day of school. We will also have an open notes test on the first week of school on this material AND a closed notes map/regions test.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me. I will be checking email periodically throughout the summer.

Once again, welcome to AP Human Geography!

Mrs. Vroman

**AP Human Geography: World Regions — A Big Picture View**



**AP Human Geography: World Regions — A Closer Look**



# Note Taking Tips:

- ▶ Find a quiet place to take notes free from distractions. The more times you are interrupted, the longer it will take you to complete your homework.
- ▶ Notes should take, on average, between 60 minutes per assignment. If they are taking longer, you are probably writing down too much or are being distracted by others or your phone etc.
- ▶ There generally should be at least one idea (bullet point) per paragraph, try to limit yourself to no more than 2-3 ideas per paragraphs (3 sometimes for longer paragraphs or complex ideas).
- ▶ Notes should answer the question on the left of the note taking guide.
- ▶ Notes should be comprised of short phrases, not sentences.
- ▶ Notes should be in your own words--not directly copied from the textbook.
- ▶ Include examples!
- ▶ Don't be afraid to use graphic organizers and charts to organize your notes when the text lends itself to this organizational strategy.
- ▶ Notes should not contain non-essential words...he, the, etc.
- ▶ Don't overlook the pictures and maps when taking notes. Sometimes this is the only place you will find important information about a particular topic.
- ▶ Notes are personal...no two people should ever have the exact same thing written down when taking notes.
- ▶ Notes should use abbreviations whenever possible. See reverse side for commonly used abbreviations. Feel free to create your own/add on to this list. Here are some other ideas for abbreviating.
  - Use the first few letters of the word – just enough to remember what the abbreviation stands for e.g.
    - Impt for 'important'
    - Info for 'information'
    - Eval for 'evaluation'
  - Remove all (or most of) the vowels from the word and use just the key consonants bunched together e.g.
    - Mngmt for 'management'
    - Mkt for 'market' (and mkting for 'marketing')
    - Dvpt for 'development'

## How to Take Notes: Cornell Style

*The format of Cornell Notes helps your brain better understand and retain information and also serves as a powerful study tool. Furthermore, the Cornell system can be used for nearly all types of instruction, including teacher lectures, documentaries, articles, books and textbooks ([e-students.org](http://e-students.org)).*

1. Divide your paper into 2 unequal columns: a cue/questions column and a note column (see the reverse side of this handout for an example).
2. Read at least one paragraph from the textbook reading (more is better, but the minimum is one paragraph) before writing anything down.
3. As you read, determine the most important things to write down. Look for information that answers: the who, what, where, when, how/why, and “so what (significance). Also, be sure to include any examples that help explain the topic.
4. Write this down in the wider notes column. Do NOT cram your information together. Leave room to add additional information from class or in case you leave out something you need to add later. Also, leaving adequate space helps you study later.
5. Use short phrases, abbreviate, and avoid unessential words (see note-taking tips).
6. Do not be afraid to add drawings, diagrams, and pictures to your notes. They can help you remember the information!
7. Use bullet points, underline, and box important information. They can help you focus later when studying.
8. When you have finished reading a section of the article or book, complete the cue/question column. Create questions about the note column by thinking of your notes as a set of answers to a question. What question might these notes be the answer to? Write that in the cue column next to the relevant note.
9. Repeat the above process until you have completed the assigned reading.
10. Now, draw a horizontal line across the bottom of your page and write “summary” in the left-hand column.
11. Write 3-4 sentences that summarize the ENTIRE reading. Review what you wrote down and take some time to think this through. This is actually one of the most important parts of the process. A good summary will help you retain information in the long run.

# CUES

WRITTEN  
SOON AFTER  
CLASS

ANTICIPATED  
EXAM QUESTIONS

MAIN IDEAS  
OR PEOPLE

VOCABULARY  
WORDS

USED FOR  
REVIEW &  
STUDY

NAME, DATE, TOPIC, CLASS

# NOTES

TAKEN DURING CLASS

- MAIN POINTS
- BULLET POINTS
- DIAGRAMS / CHARTS
- ABBREVIATE
- PARAPHRASE
- OUTLINES
- LEAVE SPACE BETWEEN TOPICS

# CORNELL NOTE-TAKING METHOD

← 2 1/2" →

← 6" →

↑  
2"  
↓

# SUMMARY

WRITTEN AFTER CLASS. BRIEF SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTING THE MAIN POINTS IN THE NOTES ON THIS PAGE. USED TO FIND INFO LATER.

## Common Abbreviations/Notetaking

+	And	lg	Large
@	At	<	less than, is smaller than
b/c	Because	min	Minimum
b/t	Between	natl	National
→	Causes/leads to/ produces/	N Am	North America
chg	Change	#	Number
↓	Decrease/decline/fall	ppl	People
Diff	different	Pop	population
≠	Does not equal	“	Repeat above
=	Equals	sm	Small
Env	Environment	ss	Sub Saharan
esp	Especially	∴	Therefore
ex	Example	US	United States
govt	Government	usu	Usually
>	greater than, is larger than	w/	With
grp	Group	w/o	Without
↑	Increase/rise/growth	ww	World wide
Intl	international		
Isl	island		

**Part I: History Videos available on Edpuzzle**

**1. Clip from *History of the World in Two Hours***

<b>Question to guide notetaking</b>	<b>Definitions, details, examples and significance (consequences/effects)</b>
<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Agricultural Revolution:</b></p> <p><i>Where does farming start (actual places &amp; physical characteristics)?</i></p> <p><i>Why here?</i></p> <p><i>Why does it matter that some areas have more animal domestication than others?</i></p>	
<p><b>Rise of Cities</b></p> <p><i>Where do the 1<sup>st</sup> cities develop?</i></p> <p><i>Why do cities develop?</i></p>	
<p><b>Development of Civilizations</b></p> <p><i>What are the characteristics of the first civilizations?</i></p> <p><i>Why is trade significant?</i></p> <p><i>What inventions have the biggest impact on the future of humanity?</i></p>	



Question to guide notetaking	Definitions, details, examples and significance (consequences/effects)
<p><i>Why does civilization development differ between the Americas &amp; Africa vs Europe &amp; Asia?</i></p> <p><i>Why are trade networks like the Silk Road significant (multiple reasons)?</i></p>	
<p><b>Age of Exploration</b></p> <p><i>Why is the Age of Exploration considered a turning point in history?</i></p> <p><i>How does the Age of Exploration impact the distribution of foods around the world (use specific examples)?</i></p> <p><i>How and why does the Age of Exploration change the Americas?</i></p> <p><i>How does the establishment of sugar plantations change Africa?</i></p>	

Question to guide notetaking	Definitions, details, examples and significance (consequences/effects)
<p><b>The Industrial Revolution</b></p> <p><i>Describe life for most people before the Industrial Revolution:</i></p> <p><i>What technology is key to the start of the industrial revolution?</i></p> <p><i>What are the most significant inventions of the industrial revolution?</i></p> <p><i>How does industrialization affect world population?</i></p>	
<p><b>Summary:</b></p>	

## 2. Andrew Marr's Age of Industry--WATCH BOTH PARTS

Question:	Details, Significance, definitions, examples
<p><i>What made the inventions of railroads so significant?</i></p> <p><i>What were some of the most significant changes to life in Great Britain mentioned by Andrew Marr?</i></p> <p><i>What are the motivating factors that led Great Britain in search of more colonies? (8:11 in video)</i></p> <p><i>How does Andrew Marr describe China in the 19<sup>th</sup> century?</i></p> <p><i>What is the main Chinese product desired by the British?</i></p> <p><i>Why is this an issue (what is the problem with trying to trade with China)?</i></p> <p><i>Why does war break out?</i></p> <p><i>Why do the British win?</i></p> <p><i>What are the stipulations in the Unequal Treaties?</i></p>	

Question:	Details, Significance, definitions, examples
<p><i>Describe life for most Russian people:</i></p> <p><i>How does the Russian govt. try to reform after its loss in the Crimean War?</i></p> <p><i>To what extent were these reforms a success?</i></p> <p><i>What happens when Commodore Perry arrives in Japan (US demands; Japanese reaction)?</i></p> <p><i>Reaction of the samurai:</i></p> <p><i>How does Japan try to modernize in response to the unequal treaties they had to sign with the US?</i></p> <p><i>Why do Europeans want to colonize Africa?</i></p> <p><i>What is Stanley's view of the Congo?</i></p> <p><i>Why does Leopold want the Congo?</i></p> <p><i>What are the consequences of King Leopold's colonization of the Congo?</i></p>	

### 3. African Colonization: The Scramble for Africa

Question:	Details, Significance, definitions, examples
<p><i>Why did Europeans desire colonies in Africa (multiple reasons, be specific):</i></p>	
<p><i>What was the Berlin Conference, and why was it important?</i></p>	
<p><i>Why do Europeans feel they had a moral duty to colonize?</i></p>	
<p><i>Where are the main colonies of the European powers?</i></p>	
<p><i>How did colonization increase the</i></p>	

Question:	Details, Significance, definitions, examples
<p><i>wealth of Europeans?</i></p> <p><i>How were French colonies different from other European nations?</i></p> <p><i>Briefly describe the characteristics of British colonial rule:</i></p> <p><i>How was the Belgium Congo unique, and why is it significant?</i></p> <p><i>How was infrastructure in Africa different</i></p>	

<b>Question:</b>	<b>Details, Significance, definitions, examples</b>
<p><i>from other colonies like India?</i></p> <p><i>What were the causes of independence (multiple reasons, be specific)?</i></p>	
<p>Summary:</p>	

## 2024 Note-taking Assignment

**Directions:** Use this handout to take handwritten notes on the required reading. Please note the guide is only for the first half of the reading. You will need to create your own guide for the second half of the reading.

<i>Questions &amp; Cues</i>	<b>Definitions, details &amp; Significance</b>
<i>What is geography?</i>	
<i>What are the 3 main questions a geographer asks?</i>	
<i>What is the difference between physical and human geography?</i>	
<i>Define climate and landforms</i>	
<i>What is meant by space?</i>	
<i>What do geographers focus on, and how do geographers use space in their studies?</i>	
<i>Explain what geographers would see if they applied the concepts of space and pattern when analyzing Mumbai and why?</i>	



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*What are maps?*

*What is a reference map?*

*A political map?*

*A physical map?*

*What is a thematic map?*

*Choropleth?*

*Cartogram*

*Prop./graduated  
symbol?*

*Dot density?*

*Isoline?*

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*How should someone  
analyze a map?*

*What are other terms  
associated with  
location/maps, how are  
they defined, and what are  
some examples of each?*

*What is a map projection?*

*What is distortion?*

*Why are projections problematic?*

*What are some specific examples of map projections?*

<b>Projection</b>	<b>Use</b>	<b>Pros</b>	<b>Cons</b>
Robinson			
Peters			
Mercator			

**Questions & Cues**

**Definitions, details & Significance**

*What is a region?*

*Why do geographers use regions?*

*Explain why S Asia and E Asia are classified as two different regions.*

*What is a formal region? (be sure to include details & examples?)*

*What is a functional or nodal region? (be sure to include details & examples AND define a node).*

*What is a vernacular*

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*region? (be sure to include details & examples.*

*Describe India's location and region classifications.*

*Why do human geographers study physical geography?*

*What is India's climate, and why is it significant (e.g. what does it affect? Give several examples)*

*What are India's significant landforms, and why are they important?*

*What are natural resources?*

*What are nonrenewable resources (with examples).*

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*What are renewable resources (give examples)*

*What is the significance of India/s resources? Explain*

*What is environmental determinism (multiple characteristics)?*

*Why has this theory largely been abandoned?*

*Describe the theory of possibilism.*

*Give an example of possibilism.*

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*What are some topics studied by human geographers?*

*What is the difference between an LDC and an MDC? (provide multiple characteristics).*

*Explain why India is considered a developing country.*

*What are the key characteristics of India's economy?*

*Define culture and*

*cultural traits.*

*Describe India's  
culture.*

**NOTE: Continue taking notes and now create your own note-taking guide for the rest of the reading. Include questions here and details on the other side of the line. You will need to add several more pages to complete your notes for this reading. Review the Cornell tip sheet if needed.**