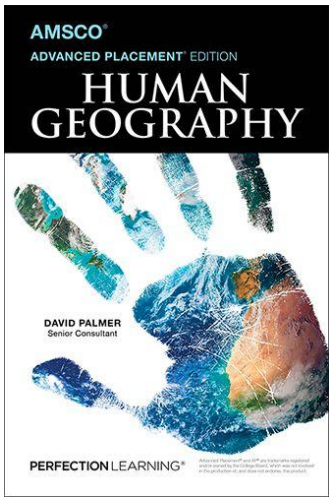
AP Human Geography Unit 1 – Thinking Geographically: 2026-2027
Vocabulary and Map Assignment



- **Read chapters 1-2 (pg.1-52) of the AP Exam test prep book: *AMSCO Advanced Placement Human Geography, 2nd* edition (Copyright 2022) by David Palmer.** (ISBN: T403801 or 978-1-6636-0966-3)
- **Do NOT acquire/refer to any edition that was published before the 2nd edition. They are outdated!! *(The cover of the book appears to the left.)***
- **The Publisher offers the least expensive option at this website:**
- AP Human Geography 2nd Edition 2027 Student Edition | Perfection Learningl
  - Choose either the ***Student Edition Softcover*** or the ***Student Edition eBook.***
  - Since this book will be used in class on a daily basis throughout the year, it is highly recommended to choose the version (softcover or eBook) that can be easily transported and accessed both in class and at home.
- **These chapters can also be accessed for free with this link** if you are waiting for your hard copy to arrive:
- **https://sampler.perfectionlearning.com/ap-human-geo-2nd-sampler/index.html#p=1**

- **Refer to the vocabulary chart file (See link below.) Complete a vocabulary chart with the key terms from each of the topics in the reading assignment. .* Refer to the next page**
- Be sure to label the beginning of each section of the vocabulary with the Topic number and title.
- **AP Human Geography Vocabulary Chart**: (see file below)
  - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OL-dMQu9nP3g9143r0It9MZRlkmW6kbw/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=110992377918102381976&rtpof=true&sd=true
  - You may choose to download the chart to complete this assignment. Or, the chart may be re-created on your own notebook paper.
  - You may choose to organize the information for each term vertically (from top to bottom) rather than horizontally like the chart, if that is your preference.
  - The terms must be numbered and listed in order and there must be a line separating each term, definition & example (as shown in the chart.) (Points will be deducted if not numbered.) ***If you mistakenly skip a word, DO NOT re-do the assignment! Just add any missing terms to the end & indicate the topic that it pertains to.
  - **DEFINITIONS MUST COME FROM THE READING ASSIGNMENT!! Do the reading and learn the content!!! Don't just skim for the vocabulary!!!**
  - **DO YOUR OWN WORK!!! And this is NOT an exercise in Googling/copy-pasting!!!**
  - **THE EXAMPLES/DESCRIPTIONS/ADDITIONAL KEY FACTS SHOULD ALSO COME FROM THE READING PASSAGES WHEN POSSIBLE*.**
  - ***When the term relates to a visual concept, it is appropriate to use an image for the example. It would then be acceptable to do an internet search using Google images to find an example. It is also acceptable to do your own sketches** 😊
  - **Work can be hand-written or typed. (NOTE: Studies show that students who hand write their work/notes have better retention rates!)**
- ****You will need to refer back to these terms throughout the entire school year so do a good job!**
- **Be sure to keep your notes safe and organized in a binder! You will need a 1 1/2" (one and a half inch) binder with 8 dividers for this class!!!**
- **Refer to the "Contents" pg. iv-xix in the AMSCO book for the units. Set up and label 1 divider for each of the 7 units. The last divider is for the Semester Exam and AP Exam Review notes.**

In addition to knowing these terms, it is also important to know the following locations and regions used in AP Human Geography: These regions are explained/shown on pgs. 44-45 of the AMSCO book.

- **Large Regions (World Regions: A Big Picture View) & Subregions (World Regions: A Closer Look)**
- **https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-LGPmWiVgDbiS65Pgf6UvVn8Gk2hr6yX/view?usp=sharing**
- **Refer to the following file to practice labeling the regions!!**
- **https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_Qh60pysasDq8qlObWBTG6-4_m7usajh/view?usp=sharing**

The Terms below are listed in the order in which they appear in the reading. The list of terms for each topic comes from the *Key Terms* list found at the end of the reading for each topic. Those terms that are printed in red with an * are terms found in the reading, but not included in the list of Key Terms.

Unit 1 – Thinking Geographically *Unit Overview* (pg. 1-7)

1. Physical Geography
2. Human Geography
3. Analyze
4. Theory
5. Concepts
6. Processes
7. Model
8. Spatial Models
9. Nonspatial Models
10. Time-Distance Decay
11. Spatial Patterns
12. Networks
13. Quantitative Data
14. Geospatial Data
15. Qualitative Sources
16. Scales of Analysis

Topic 1.1 – Introduction to Maps (pg. 9-17)

17. Reference Maps
18. Political Maps
19. Physical Maps
20. Road Maps
21. Plat Maps
22. Thematic Maps
23. Choropleth Maps
24. Dot Distribution Maps
25. Graduated Symbol Maps/ Proportional Symbol Maps
26. Isoline Maps
27. Topographic Maps
28. Cartogram
29. Scale
30. Cartographic Scale
31. 3 Types of Cartographic Scales
32. Small-scale Maps
33. Large-scale Maps
34. Absolute Location
35. Latitude lines/Parallels
36. Equator
37. Longitude lines/Meridians
38. Prime Meridian
39. International Date Line
40. Relative Location
41. Connectivity
42. Accessibility
43. Direction
44. *Cardinal Directions
45. *Intermediate Directions
46. *Ghost Towns
47. *Distance
48. Absolute Distance
49. Relative Distance
50. Elevation
51. Distribution
52. Patterns
53. Clustered Distribution/ Agglomerated Distribution
54. Linear Distribution
55. Dispersed Distribution
56. Circular Distribution
57. Geometric Distribution
58. Random Distribution
59. *Map Projection
60. *4 Distortions of Map Projections
61. *Mercator Projection
62. *Peters Projection
63. *Conic Projection
64. *Robinson Projection

Topic 1.2 – Geographic Data (pg. 18-20)

65. Landscape Analysis
66. Field Observations
67. Spatial Data
68. Remote Sensing
69. Aerial Photography

Topic 1.3 – The Power of Geographic Data (pg. 21-23)

70. Geovisualization
71. *Limitations of Geospatial Data
72. Global Positioning Systems (GPS)
73. Remote Sensing
74. Geographic Information System (GIS)

Topic 1.4 – Spatial Concepts (pg. 31-34)

75. Spatial Approach
76. Space
77. Location
78. Place
79. Region
80. Site
81. Situation
82. Sense of Place
83. *Placelessness
84. Toponyms
85. Time-Space Compression
86. Spatial Interaction
87. Flow
88. Friction of Distance
89. Distance Decay Model
90. *Limitations of Distance Decay Model (Declining Influence of Distance)
91. Patterns
92. Distribution
93. Spatial Association

Topic 1.5 – Human-Environmental Interaction (pg. 35-37)

94. Human-Environmental Interaction
95. Natural Resources
96. Renewable Natural Resources
97. Non-renewable Natural Resources
98. Sustainability
99. Land Use
100. *Natural Environment
101. Built Environment
102. Cultural Landscape
103. Cultural Ecology
104. Environmental Determinism
105. Possibilism

Topic 1.6 - Scales of Analysis (pg. 38-42)

106. *Scales of Analysis
107. Geographic Scale/ Relative Scale
108. Global Scale
109. World Regional Scale
110. National Scale
111. National Regional Scale
112. Local Scale
113. *Census (pg. 231)
114. *Census Tract (pg. 423)
115. Data Aggregation
116. False Conclusion

Topic 1.7 - Regional Analysis (pg. 43-46)

117. Regions
118. Formal Regions/ Uniform Regions/ Homogeneous Regions
119. Functional Regions/ Nodal Regions
120. Perceptual Regions/ Vernacular Regions
121. Subregions
122. *Limitations of Regional Studies (Problems with Regions)

I look forward to meeting you in the fall 😊. If you have any questions about the assignment, you may contact me at heather.mattson@browardschools.com – Regards, Ms. Mattson