**AP Human Geography Parsons**

Rubenstein “The Cultural Landscape” Chapter Outlines **EXAMPLES** (Ch. 1, intro and Key Issue #1)

Below are examples of outlining for your Notebooks. One is more minimal, the other more comprehensive. You should attach these sheets in your notebook for future reference. Always leave some room on the outside of the notebook paper for your future notes/questions. **Each Key Issue should be *at minimum* one page of notes**, but will most likely be more. Make sure that it’s not just rewriting the book, but has your personal notes, observations, and understandings. It should reflect that you are comprehending what you read. This will affect your success on tests, engaging in discussions, and the AP Exam. It must be hand-written in your notebook.

EXAMPLE 1

**Chapter 1: Basic Concepts**

1. Intro: Geography – scientific study of where people/activities & why they are there (connections)
   1. Geography: “locations,” “where/why,” “spatial organization,” and “global actions and their consequences in other locations.” (butterfly effect)
   2. History: “dates/events,” “when/why,” “chronological organization,” and “past actions affect future actions.” (if we don’t learn from the past, we are doomed to repeat)
2. **Key Issue 1: How Do Geographers Describe Where Things Are?**
   1. Intro: “Geo”=Earth “Graphy”=To Write invented by Greek scholar Eratosthenes
      1. Human Geography: study of where/why human activities are located where they are
   2. Maps: a 2-dimensional/flat-scale model of Earth’s surface or portion (cartography: mapmaking)
      1. It is a reference tool and a communication tool – we should be able to use it
      2. Early Mapmaking: Eratosthenes (c. 276?-194? BC), Greek Ptolemy (c. AD 100?-170?) maps based on Roman exploration, Pei Xiu “father of Chinese cartography” (AD 267), Muhammad al-Idrisi (AD 1100-1165?) world map/info in 1154. German Waldseemuller (1470?-1520) first map with “America”
      3. Map Scale: How much of the earth is being shown in map
         1. Ratio/fraction: 1/24,000 means 1 unit on map=24,000 of that on ground
         2. Written: “1 inch equals 1 mile”
         3. Graphic scale: bar line showing distance on earth’s surface
      4. Projection: Transferring round earth locations to a flat map. There can be problems like distorted shape, distance, relative size +/-, or direction.
      5. Geographic Grid: imaginary “lines”/arcs used to show locations on earth’s surface
         1. Meridian/Longitude: run north/south BUT measured E/W from Prime Meridian
         2. Parallel/Latitude: run E/W BUT measured N/S from Equator
      6. Telling Time
         1. Greenwich Mean Time runs thru England (0 longitude) establishes time (we are Central Time Zone, Chicago)
         2. International Date Line in the Pacific Ocean (180) – those East of it celebrate the New Years before us: Tokyo, Australia, Singapore, etc.
   3. Contemporary Tools
      1. Satellite-based Imagery: Geographic Info Science (GIScience) - analysis of geo data
         1. Remote sensing: scans earth’s surface – shows even the smallest features
         2. GPS: Global Positioning System. Satellites orbit, tracking stations monitor, receiver uses at least 4 satellites to pinpoint location. Used for navigation.
         3. GIS: Geographic Information System. Position of any object can be measured and recorded. Allows maps with layers of information. Can discover relationships between different layers (“mash-ups”) Allows combinations of information like where to live to get the best pizza (Seabrook’s Midnite Slice!).

**Chapter 1 – Basic Concepts – Outline**

EXAMPLE 2

**Introduction** Geography is more than rote memorization: Geographers ask where things are and why they are where they are. They use concepts of **location** and **distribution** to do so. Especially important in the study of human geography is the tension between **globalization** and local diversity.

**Key Issue 1: How Do Geographers Describe Where Things Are?**

A **map** is a two-dimensional or flat-scale model of the real world, made small enough to work with on a desk or computer. **Cartography** is the science of making maps. Maps are used for reference (where things are located) and for communication of the distribution of some feature or features.

**Early Mapmaking** Maps have been created for thousands of years. The earliest maps were used as reference tools—simple navigation devices designed to show a traveler how to get from Point A to Point B. Mapmaking as a reference tool was revived during the Age of Exploration and Discovery. Explorers who sailed across the oceans in search of trade routes and resources in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries required accurate maps to reach their desired destinations without wrecking their ships.

**Contemporary Mapping** Maps are used by geographers primarily for displaying geographic information and for offering geographic explanation. Maps are geographer’s most essential tool.

**Map Scale** The map’s **scale** is the relationship between map units and the actual distance on Earth. Ratioor fractionscale gives the relationship as a ratio, for example, 1:100,000 is that 1 unit on the map equals 100,000 units on the ground. In a written scale units are expressed in a convenient way, for example, “1 centimeter equals 1 kilometer.” A graphic scale is given by a scale bar showing the distance represented on Earth’s surface.

**Projection** Maps are a planar (flat) representation of Earth’s curved surface. Earth is nearly a sphere and is therefore only accurately represented on a globe. Thus, some distortion must result when using maps, especially at small scales (continental or whole-Earth maps). Cartographers must choose a **projection** that results in some set of distortions between shape, distance, relative size, and direction.

**Geographic Grid** Mathematical location describes a place’s location using a coordinate system such as **latitude** and **longitude**. Longitude is culturally defined as starting at Greenwich, England, and measures degrees of east and west of that line of longitude, or **meridian.** The zero degree longitude line in Greenwich, England, is known as the **prime meridian.** Latitude measures north and south distance with the **equator** being the line of latitude halfway between the poles. A latitude line is known as a **parallel** because all latitude lines are parallel to the equator. The equator is the parallel with the greatest circumference and is the baseline for measuring latitude.

**Telling Time** Longitude plays an important role in calculating time. If we let every fifteenth degree of longitude represent one time zone, and divide 360 degrees by 15 degrees, we get 24 time zones. As the Earth rotates eastward, any place to the east of you always passes under the Sun earlier. Thus as you travel eastward from the prime meridian you are catching up with the Sun, so you must turn your clock ahead 1 hour by each 15 degrees. If you travel westward from the prime meridian, you are falling behind the Sun, so you turn your clock back by 1 hour for each 15 degrees. During the summer, many places in the world, including most of North America, move the clocks ahead 1 hour.

When you cross the **International Date Line** you move the clock back one entire day, if you are heading eastward toward America. You turn the clock ahead 24 hours if you are heading westward toward Asia. The International Date Line for the most part follows 180 degrees longitude. However, several islands in the Pacific Ocean belonging to the countries of Kiribati and Samoa, as well as to New Zealand’s Tokelau territory, moved the International Date Line several thousand kilometers to the east.

**Collecting Data: Remote Sensing** The acquisition of data about Earth’s surface from a satellite orbiting Earth or from airplanes is known as **remote sensing**. At any moment a satellite sensor records the image of a tiny area called a pixel. A map created by remote sensing is essentially a grid that contains many rows of pixels. Geographers use remote sensing to map the changing distribution of a wide variety of features, such as agriculture, drought, and sprawl.

**Pinpointing Location: GPS** The **Global Positioning System (GPS)** uses satellites to reference locations on the ground.GPS is most commonly used for navigation. Pilots of aircraft and ships stay on course with GPS. On land, GPS detects a vehicle’s current position, the motorist programs the desired destination into a GPS device, and the device provides instructions on how to reach the destination. GPS can also be used to find the precise location of a vehicle or person. Geographers find GPS to be particularly useful in coding the precise location of objects collected in fieldwork.

**Layering Data: GIS** A **geographic information system (GIS)** is a complex computer system which stores and presents geographically referenced data. GIS is more efficient than pen and ink for making for making a map: Objects can be added or removed, colors brightened or toned town, and mistakes corrected without having to tear up the paper and start from scratch. Each type of information can be stored in a layer. Separate layers could be created for boundaries of countries, bodies of water, roads, and names of places. Most maps combine several layers and GIS maps permits construction of much more complex maps than can be drawn by hand.

**Mixing Data: Mashups** The term mashup refers to the practice of overlaying data from one source on top of one of the mapping services. Computer users have the ability to do their own GIS because mapping services provide access to the application programming interface, which is the language that links a database such as an address list with software such as mapping. A mashup map can show the locations of businesses and activities within a neighborhood in a city. The requested information could be all pizza parlors within a mile of a certain address. Mapping software can also show the precise locations of gas stations with the lowest prices or current traffic tie-ups on highways.

***Hopefully these examples help you. Creating the outlines and studying them are two of the most effective ways to be successful in this class and the AP Exam. Your own outlines will naturally reflect your own personality and creativity, but they should also reflect effort and understanding.***