2024

AP® Human Geography
Scoring Guidelines
Set 2

Question 1: No Stimulus   7 points

(A)   Describe ONE type of diffusion by which culture traits spread.   **1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- A1. Expansion diffusion, as ideas or practices spread through a population into different areas.
- A2. Relocation diffusion, as ideas or practices spread from one location to a new or distant location, or to a location across a geographic barrier.
- A3. Hierarchical diffusion, as ideas or practices spread from one important or significant city, community, and/or person to another.
- A4. Contagious diffusion, as ideas or practices spread from person to person or along a transportation line.
- A5. Stimulus diffusion, as ideas or practices are borrowed from one culture and altered by another culture.

(B)   Describe the process of creolization of language.   **1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- B1. Interactions between or among culture traits and/or larger global forces lead to new forms of cultural expression and/or new languages.
- B2. Two or more languages converge or mix to create a new language or new form of communication.
- B3. People speaking two or more languages experience syncretism and/or combine their languages to form a new language.
- B4. The development of a new language or dialect occurs due to the contact between groups that speak different and/or mutually unintelligible languages.
- B5. The blending of two or more languages in which the new language includes selected features of either original language.

(C)	**Describe how the globalization of foods has influenced cultural patterns of food consumption.**	**1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- C1. Globalization has resulted in the global spread of various plants and/or animals.
- C2. Globalization has resulted in the spread of ingredients, cuisines, foods, and/or food cultures to people around the world.
- C3. Globalization has resulted in policies (e.g., safety regulations, labeling requirements) that may affect consumer preferences (e.g., organic, Kosher, Halal).
- C4. Globalization has popularized foods from different regions (e.g., sushi, tacos, kebabs).
- C5. Globalization alters the quantity, type, and/or cost of foods.
- C6. Globalization has expanded food options, changed diets, and/or changed levels of nutrition.
- C7. Globalization has reduced the consumption of local foods as people opt for globally distributed foods (e.g., fast food, processed, frozen).
- C8. Globalization provides access to crops that were formerly only available in certain climates and/or year-long access to foods that were formerly only seasonally available.

(D)	**Explain ONE way that agricultural land use practices may have negative environmental effects.**	**1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- D1. Agricultural practices may result in increased pollution (e.g., soil, air, water) through chemical inputs (e.g., fertilizers, pesticides), resource use, and/or mechanized farming.
- D2. Agricultural practices may contribute to water runoff that can pollute or degrade the quality of local or downstream water supplies (e.g., streams, rivers, lakes, oceans, groundwater, aquifers, wetlands).
- D3. Agricultural pollution may contribute to global environmental problems (e.g., the greenhouse effect, climate change, ozone layer damage).
- D4. Agricultural practices (e.g., plowing, terracing, deforestation, draining wetlands, grazing animals) may degrade and/or eliminate plant or animal habitats, change ecosystems, and/or reduce biodiversity.
- D5. Agricultural practices (e.g., irrigation, dryland farming) may contribute to soil salinization, desertification, and/or soil erosion.

(E)	**Explain how a new style of music may be created as a result of cultural diffusion from different regions.**	**1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- E1. A new style of music may be created through a process of cultural interaction (e.g., syncretism, creolization, communication technologies).
- E2. When two or more musical styles come into contact, their elements may be combined to create a new musical style, tradition, instrument, dance, and/or genre.

(F)	**Explain how toponyms may result from the diffusion of religion across the cultural landscape.**	**1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- F1. The diffusion of religion may result in places (e.g., neighborhoods, cities, sub-national units, regions, countries) or natural features (e.g., rivers, mountains) being named after important religious figures, sacred sites, places of worship, events (e.g., holidays), and/or symbols.
- F2. The process of colonization and/or sequent occupance leaves evidence of past religions through placenames or the names of natural features.

(G)	**Explain the degree to which the use of indigenous languages has been influenced by colonialism. (Response must indicate the degree [low, moderate, high] and provide an explanation.)**	**1 point**

Statement of a moderate or high degree

AND

Supported by one of the following:

- G1. Colonizers reduced or restricted indigenous language use by imposing their own languages to govern (e.g., by law), assimilate (e.g., religion), and/or communicate (e.g., as a lingua franca, taught in schools).
- G2. Colonization reduced the number of indigenous language speakers through disease and/or conflict.
- G3. Colonialism reduced or replaced indigenous languages with colonizers' languages in toponyms, maps, charts, and/or in other representations.
- G4. In some areas, colonialism encouraged indigenous language use (e.g., Nahuatl in Central America) through the employment of indigenous people (e.g., for administrative or religious purposes).

OR

Statement of a moderate or low degree

AND

Supported by one of the following:

- G5. In some areas (e.g., parts of Africa, parts of Oceania), indigenous languages remain widely used because of local resistance or indifference to colonial cultural influences and/or flourishing cultural centers.
- G6. In some areas (e.g., Paraguay, Oaxaca, Guatemala), colonizers' languages were not widely adopted, leaving indigenous languages largely unaffected.

Total for question 1:   7 points

Question 2: One Stimulus   7 points

(A)   **Identify ONE type of boundary shown on the map.**   **1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- A1. Political boundary (e.g., state, district, county)
- A2. Physical or natural boundary (e.g., the Potomac River)
- A3. Geometric boundary (e.g., District of Columbia, Arlington County)
- A4. Relict boundary (e.g., Arlington County was once part of the District of Columbia)
- A5. Superimposed boundary (e.g., District of Columbia)
- A6. Consequent boundary (e.g., Potomac River between the District of Columbia and Virginia)
- A7. Antecedent boundary (e.g., colonial-era boundaries)
- A8. Subsequent boundary (e.g., District of Columbia carved out of already existing Maryland and/or Virginia)

(B)   **Describe ONE site characteristic of Washington, D.C., shown on the map.**   **1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- B1. Washington, D.C., is located along the Potomac River and/or the Anacostia River.
- B2. Washington, D.C., is at the confluence or intersection of the Potomac River and the Anacostia River.
- B3. Washington, D.C., is at the intersection of the coastal plain and the Piedmont (foothills) or on the fall line.
- B4. Washington, D.C., is located in an area with a tidal estuary, a peninsula, freshwater streams, wetlands, fertile soils, low-lying areas, and/or tidal flats.

(C)   **Explain how political power is spatially distributed within a federal system of governance.**   **1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- C1. Power is dispersed or shared between the central, sub-national, and/or local governments.
- C2. Most federal systems have capital districts (e.g., Washington, D.C., Brasília) or locations (e.g., courts, military bases) where some government functions are centralized and also sub-national (state, provincial, departmental) capitals where local or regional political functions are dispersed.

(D)	**Explain ONE way suburban sprawl is likely to negatively affect environmental sustainability in metropolitan areas.**	**1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- D1. Development related to sprawl (e.g., construction, transportation, utilities) can lead to increased air or water pollution.
- D2. Land cover change related to sprawl (e.g., deforestation) can lead to the loss or fragmentation of habitats, water pollution, and/or decreased biodiversity.
- D3. Expansion of transportation networks related to sprawl can lead to more pollution and/or warmer climates (e.g., traffic, congestion, urban heat islands, inefficient energy use).
- D4. Development related to sprawl can inhibit the use of land for local food production, open space, conservation, greenbelts, or preservation efforts.

(E)	**Describe ONE way transportation-oriented development, such as expanding a Metrorail line, may promote urban sustainability.**	**1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- E1. By promoting walkability, livability, more efficient land use (e.g., fewer roadways, reduction in impermeable surfaces), and/or reductions in pollution.
- E2. By reducing the number of cars, resulting in decreased air and/or noise pollution.
- E3. By reducing the ecological footprint (e.g., reduced carbon footprint, reduced energy use) of the city.
- E4. Heavily trafficked and/or accessible transit stops may become places of mixed-use development.
- E5. Additional transit stops can reduce commuting distances or travel times to work and/or to other service locations.
- E6. Commuting can be more economically sustainable than car travel (e.g., cost of car ownership, fuel, maintenance, insurance, parking).

(F)	**Explain how regional transportation networks led to the development of edge cities.**	**1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- F1. Transportation enabled commercial land use to decentralize (move away) from city centers.
- F2. Edge cities formed near major highway intersections or transit stations because those developments needed to be accessible to workers and/or consumers.
- F3. By providing access to services or office locations for the people who live, work, and/or shop there.
- F4. Transportation provides access to lower-cost land away from the city center (bid rent theory).

(G)	**Explain how the geographic fragmentation of local governments could present a challenge to the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area's ability to construct a new Metrorail line.**	**1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- G1. Construction could be challenging because it would involve multiple governments to fund, plan, zone, and/or cooperate.
- G2. Local governments could disagree with the federal government about where to construct a new Metro line.
- G3. Construction could be challenging because parts of the new Metro line might not fall clearly under the jurisdiction of a specific government.
- G4. Having many competing ideas or authorities could make the planning process inefficient and/or make it difficult to determine accountability.
- G5. Local governments could disagree on how to share the costs of construction and/or operational costs of the rail system.
- G6. Local governments could disagree on the location of new stations because development around new Metro stations is a source of tax revenue and/or economic development.

Total for question 2:   7 points

Question 3: Two Stimuli   7 points

(A)   **Select ONE country listed in the table and identify its stage in the demographic**   **1 point**
transition model.

Accept one of the following:

- A1. Any country in the table (Croatia, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Japan, Portugal, or Romania) and stage 4 or stage 5.

(B)   **Define the concept of a pronatalist policy.**   **1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- B1. Pronatalist policies are those that encourage or promote population growth.
- B2. Government programs that provide incentives (e.g., longer parental leave, childcare, tax credits) for increasing fertility rates and/or population growth.
- B3. Pronatalist policies are designed to increase the birth rate and/or the fertility rate of an area.

(C)   **Explain ONE factor that affects birth rates as countries move from stage 3 to stage 4 in**   **1 point**
the demographic transition model.

Accept one of the following:

- C1. Increased access to health care, contraceptives, and/or other family planning information tends to reduce the number of children born.
- C2. Increased access to education and/or employment of women is generally associated with lower fertility.
- C3. More people live in urban areas where space is limited or the cost of living makes raising children more expensive, reducing the birth rate.
- C4. People may have fewer children over time as agricultural production requires less labor (e.g., mechanization, agricultural chemicals).
- C5. Decreases in infant and/or child mortality rates may reduce the need to have more children.
- C6. Government policies and/or programs may reduce fertility (e.g., antinatalist policies).

(D)   **Describe ONE likely economic effect when countries have negative population growth.**   **1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- D1. A country with an aging population or a high elder dependency ratio may spend more money on programs for the elderly or retired.
- D2. A low youth dependency ratio may create an opportunity for public funds to be shifted from education and/or childcare needs to social services for the elderly.
- D3. Countries may not have a large enough workforce or enough working-aged people to support the economy and/or pay taxes.
- D4. Employers may need migrants to supplement declining labor pools and/or a smaller workforce.
- D5. Primary sector activities that are labor-intensive may be limited as the economy shifts to activities that require fewer workers.
- D6. Economies may shift from labor-intensive primary and/or secondary sector activities to tertiary or higher-sector activities that can be performed by an aging workforce or outsourced to workers in other countries.
- D7. Large companies may create economies of scale and/or increase usage of technology to create more efficient production processes that use fewer workers.
- D8. Economic stagnation and/or decline may occur when there are fewer people to purchase goods, real estate, and/or services.

(E)   **Based on the data shown in the table, describe a policy that a government might develop in response to demographic change.**   **1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- E1. Governments might implement pronatalist or population growth policies and/or increase immigration.
- E2. Pro-immigration policies might include expanding access to public benefits or services and/or provide assistance with assimilation.
- E3. Pronatalist policies might include increased parental leave, increased tax incentives, government-subsidized childcare, and/or family-friendly employment law.
- E4. Governments might redesign finance or tax structures (e.g., changes to social security and/or pension systems) that affect the elderly population.
- E5. Governments might expand health care options for the elderly population (e.g., retirement or nursing homes, health clinics, specialty hospitals), and/or governments might train professionals specializing in geriatric health care.
- E6. Governments might support programs to meet the social needs of senior citizens (e.g., adult day care, senior centers, senior housing).
- E7. Governments might support policies that improve infrastructure to make landscapes, signage, transportation, and/or buildings more friendly to the elderly.
- E8. Governments might try to slow or halt rural population loss by improving rural-to-urban transportation systems, encouraging remote work, and/or promoting rural economic growth (e.g., tourism, industry).

| **(F)** | **Explain ONE reason why the life expectancy in urban areas may be higher than the life expectancy in the entire country.** | **1 point** |

Accept one of the following:

- F1. Urban areas may have better access to food, health care, sanitation, and/or social services.
- F2. There may be greater access to education, nutritional information, and/or health information in urban areas.
- F3. Urban working conditions may include shorter daily working hours, fewer weekly hours, less physically demanding work, and/or better safety (e.g., fewer work accidents).
- F4. Urban living may lead to healthier lifestyles due to greater access to recreation facilities, sports activities, walkable cities, and/or bikeable cities.

| **(G)** | **Using the data in the table, explain how, over time, low birth rates may impact the country's percent of population over age 65.** | **1 point** |

Accept one of the following:

- G1. Low birth rates may lead to an increase in the percent of population over age 65 because the overall population ages and/or there are fewer children.
- G2. If birth rates drop below death rates or if the rate of natural increase is negative, the overall population will age and/or the percent of population over age 65 will increase.

Total for question 3:   7 points