

AP Human Geography Cheat Sheet

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Unit 1: Thinking Geographically

- **5 Themes of Geography:**

- **Location:** Absolute (latitude, longitude)
- **Place:** Physical and human characteristics of a place
- **Human-environment interaction:** How people interact with the environment
- **Movement:** Mobility of people, goods, and ideas across places
- **Regions:** Areas distinctive from one another

- **Types of Geography:**

- Modern (science)
- Human (culture)
- Physical (landforms/vegetation)

- **Map Types:**

- **Isoline:** Lines of equal value (e.g., temperature, pressure)
- **Choropleth:** Color shows information
- **Proportional Symbol:** Size correlates to intensity
- **Dot:** Each dot represents a specific value

- **Types of Sensing:**

- Remote Sensing
- GPS (Global Positioning System)
- GIS (Geographical Information Science)

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Unit 2: Population and Migration Patterns and Processes

- **Population Models:**
 - **Population Pyramids:** Show the % of males and females by age group
 - **Demographic Transition Model (DTM):** Shows transition from high birth and death rates to lower rates as a country develops
 - **Epidemiologic Transition Model:** Shows the cause of death at each stage of DTM
 - **Ravenstein's Laws of Migration:** Ten rules explaining migration patterns
 - **Malthusian Theory of Population Growth:** Human population grows faster than the food supply
- **Key Characteristics:**
 - Crude birth rate, crude death rate
 - Immigration (in), emigration (out)
 - Epidemic, endemic, feticide (killing a fetus), infanticide (killing an infant)
- **Types of Density:**
 - Arithmetic (# of objects)
 - Physiological (# of people)
 - Agricultural (# of farmers)

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Unit 3: Cultural Patterns and Processes

- **Types of Culture:**

- **Folk:** Traditions, dress modes
- **Popular:** Trends in diet, music, and food
- **Local:** Customs and traits of a community
- **Material:** Art, sports, dance
- **Non-material:** Beliefs, practices, aesthetics

- **Cultural Concepts:**

- **Cultural Relativism:** Understanding another culture on its own terms
- **Ethnocentrism:** Judging other cultures by the standards of your own

- **Religion:**

- **Universalizing Religions:** Spread through expansion and relocation diffusion (e.g., Christianity, Islam)
- **Ethnic Religions:** Found near their hearth, spread through relocation diffusion (e.g., Hinduism, Judaism)

- **Cultural Processes:**

- **Acculturation:** Adoption of traits from a dominant culture
- **Assimilation:** Replacement of weaker culture by a dominant one
- **Syncretism:** Blending of two cultures
- **Multiculturalism:** Coexistence of multiple cultures in one area

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Unit 4: Political Patterns and Processes

- **Key Terms:**

- **Geopolitics:** Interaction between politics and territories
- **Sovereignty:** State's authority to govern itself
- **State:** Political unit with defined boundaries (e.g., USA, China)
- **Nation:** Cultural unit with common ancestry, language, religion

- **Types of Political Units:**

- **Nation-state:** Political unit with one nation (e.g., Japan)
- **Stateless Nation:** Nation without a state (e.g., Kurds)
- **Multinational State:** State with multiple nations (e.g., USSR)

- **Boundary Types:**

- **Antecedent:** Before cultural landscape
- **Subsequent:** Evolved with the cultural landscape
- **Superimposed:** Imposed by outside forces
- **Relict:** No longer functions as a boundary

- **Political Concepts:**

- **Irredentism:** Ethnic group aiming to reclaim territory
- **Balkanization:** Fragmentation of a state into smaller states
- **Self-determination:** Ethnic groups governing themselves

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Unit 5: Agriculture and Rural Land-Use Patterns and Processes

- **Farming Types:**
 - **Intensive:** Market gardening, plantation agriculture
 - **Extensive:** Shifting cultivation, nomadic herding
- **Rural Settlement Patterns:**
 - **Clustered:** Close proximity
 - **Dispersed:** Isolated from neighbors
 - **Linear:** Along roads or rivers
- **Rural Survey Methods:**
 - **Metes and bounds:** Descriptions of land based on natural features
 - **Township and range:** Rectangular land divisions
 - **Long lot:** Land divided into narrow parcels along rivers or roads

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Unit 6: Cities and Urban Land-Use Patterns and Processes

- **Urbanization:** Increase in the population of cities
- **Urban Models:**
 - **Concentric Zone:** City grows in rings
 - **Sector Model:** City grows in sectors (Hoyt)
 - **Multiple Nuclei Model:** City has multiple activity centers
 - **Galactic/Periphery Model:** Modified multiple nuclei model; accounts for suburbanization
- **Squatter Settlements:** Low-quality housing developed without legal rights to the land
- **Urban Concepts:**
 - **Site:** Physical characteristics of a place
 - **Situation:** Relative location of a place (factors supporting growth)

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Unit 7: Industrial and Economic Development Patterns and Processes

- **Economic Sectors:**

- **Primary:** Extraction of raw materials
- **Secondary:** Processing of raw materials into goods
- **Tertiary:** Provision of services
- **Quaternary:** Information processing
- **Quinary:** High-level decision-making activities

- **Economic Models:**

- **Rostow's Stages of Economic Growth:** Traditional society, preconditions for takeoff, takeoff, drive to maturity, high mass consumption

- **Weber's Least Cost Theory:** Optimal location of industry based on transportation, labor, and agglomeration factors

- **Economic Activity:**

- **Formal:** Legally registered and taxed
- **Informal:** Not legally registered or taxed

Additional Notes: