

Name: _____ Period: _____ Wood

3.1 handout: Population and Culture – The Study of Human Geography

Big idea: Population is distributed unevenly over the world. During the twentieth century, the world's population grew more rapidly than ever before.

Define the following terms:

- Culture
- Population density
- Urbanization
- Cultural convergence
- Cultural divergence

1. Human geography studies... _____ and

_____ as well as languages, religions, customs, and economic & political systems.

2. What is the world's population today? _____

3. The world's population has been growing since what year? _____

4. What is a social organization? _____

5. What is the most important part of a social organization? _____

6. Groups of people who speak the same language often share the same. _____

7. Why is religion important? _____

8. Both internal and ... _____ effect a culture.

9. What is the key idea in cultural convergence? _____

10. What is the key idea in cultural divergence? _____

Review question:

11. In what kinds of places would you expect to find the greatest population density?

Graph Skills:

12. What was the world's population in 1950?

CHAPTER
3

Population and Culture

SECTION 1

THE STUDY OF HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

TEXT SUMMARY

Human geography studies population and culture, as well as languages, religions, customs, and economic and political systems. **Culture** is made up of people's beliefs, actions, and way of life.

The world's population today is more than six billion. The population density in some places is much higher than in other places. **Population density** is the average number of people in a square mile or square kilometer.

The world's population has been growing very rapidly since the 1950s (see chart). This increase is not divided equally among countries or parts of countries. **Urbanization**, or the

growth of city populations, is happening throughout the world.

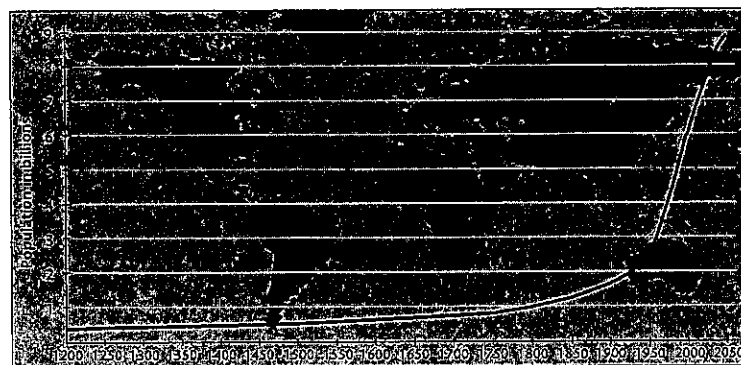
Differences in population are often the result of differences in cultures. Social organization is the way members of a culture organize themselves into groups. In all cultures the family is the most important part of social organization. Groups of people who speak the same language often share the same customs. Religion supports the values that a group of people believe are important.

Both internal and external influences affect a culture. **Cultural convergence** occurs when customs of a society come in contact with those of another culture. **Cultural divergence**, on the other hand, refers to the restriction of a culture from outside cultural influences.

THE BIG IDEA

Population is distributed unevenly over the world. During the twentieth century, the world's population grew more rapidly than ever before.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: World Population Growth: A.D. 1150 to 2050



For many centuries, the world's population grew at about the same rate.

Source: United Nations Population Division
*Estimate

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. In what kinds of places would you expect to find the greatest population density?
2. **Graph Skills** What was the world's population in 1950?