

World Geography

Chapter 3

Population and Culture

World Geography

Chapter 3: Population and Culture

Section 1: The Study of Human Geography

Section 2: Political and Economic Systems



The Study of Human Geography



- **Why is population density distributed unevenly around the world?**
- **What are some possible effects of population growth?**
- **What are some of the elements of culture?**
- **How do cultures change?**



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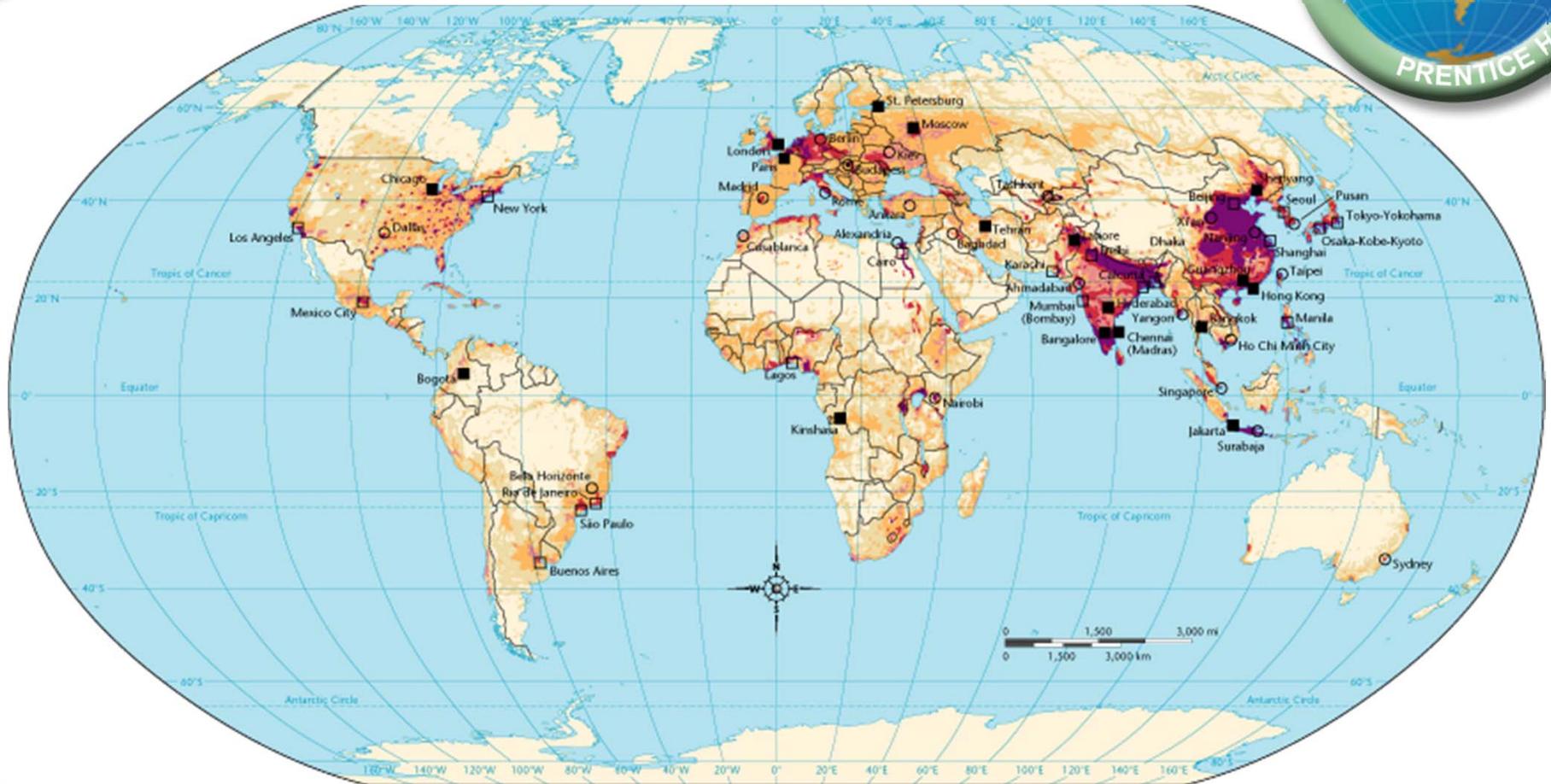
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Chapter 3 , Section 1

Where People Live



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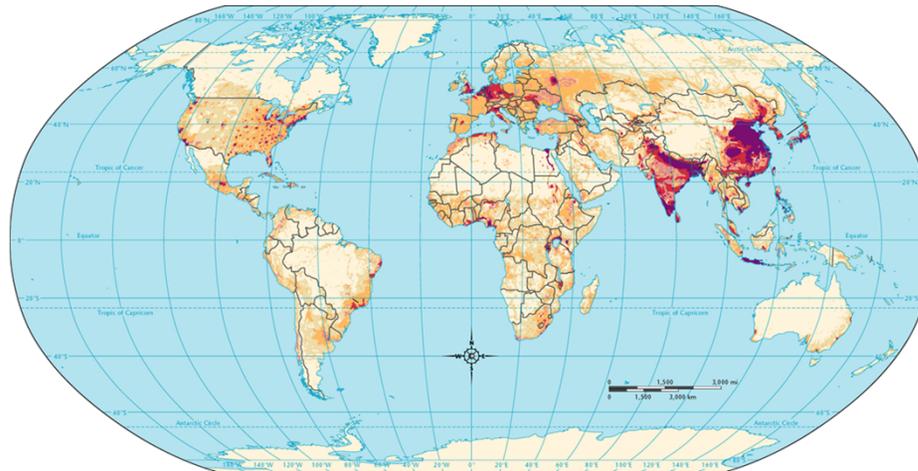
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Where People Live



- More than 6 billion people live on the earth, and in some areas the **population density**, or average number of people who live in a square mile or square kilometer, is very high.
- Only a small portion of the earth's surface is suitable for human habitation.
- People have adapted to different environments, and at the same time human activity has altered the earth's physical landscape.



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Population Growth



- The world's population has grown dramatically in recent centuries.
- Modern technology, such as improved medical care and increased food production, has enabled people to live much longer, but it poses a special problem for poorer countries.
- Some demographers predict population growth will bring famine, disease, and resource depletion, but others predict that levels of technology and creativity will increase.
- Different countries have different balances between the **birthrate**, or the number of live births per 1,000 people per year, and the death rate.
- Population is affected by the number of **immigrants** and **emigrants**.
- Many people live in metropolitan areas, and the process of growth of city populations, or **urbanization**, is going on throughout the world.



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The Nature of Culture



- **Culture is reflected in material ways, such as food, clothing, and architecture, and in nonmaterial ways, such as language and government.**
- **A **culture hearth** is a place where important ideas begin and spread to surrounding cultures.**
- **Language is the cornerstone of culture and reflects a culture's identity.**
- **Religion helps people understand basic questions about the meaning of life, and religious beliefs vary from culture to culture.**
- **Every culture has a way of organizing its society, and most have social classes that rank people in order of status.**
- **In many cultures, social mobility is restricted, and limits are often imposed upon women and ethnic or religious minorities.**



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Cultural Change



CULTURAL CHANGE			
Meaning	Outline character about 3000 B.C.	Sumerian about 2000 B.C.	Babylonian about 500 B.C.
Sun			
God or heaven			
Mountain			
Ox			
Fish			



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Cultural Change



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- Cultures are changed by both internal and external influences.
- Many cultural changes result from the invention of new items or new ways of doing things.
- **Cultural convergence** occurs when the skills, arts, ideas, habits, and institutions of one culture come into contact with those of another culture.
- **Diffusion** is the process by which a cultural element is transmitted from one group to another.
- **Cultural divergence**, or restriction from outside influences, occurs when cultural contact is limited.



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Section 1 Review



How has improved medical care affected population growth?

- a) It has reduced population growth.
- b) It has dramatically increased population growth.
- c) It has led to a decline in population.
- d) It has had no effect on population growth.

The process by which a cultural element is transmitted between groups is called

- a) convergence.
- b) divergence.
- c) diffusion.
- d) revolution.

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Section 1 Review



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Political and Economic Systems



- **What are four characteristics shared by all countries?**
- **How do various types of government differ from one another?**
- **How do various types of economic systems differ from one another?**



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The World's Countries



- Each country has four specific characteristics: a defined territory, a population, a sovereignty, and a government.
- A country's territory includes the land, water, and natural resources within its boundaries.
- Natural resources can be more important than a country's size.
- In return for taxes, military service, or other obligations, citizens of countries are usually assured protection by their government.
- **Sovereignty** is a nation's freedom from outside control.
- A sovereign country is one that determines its own policies and actions.



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Types of Government



Government is the institution through which a society makes and enforces its public policies and provides for its common needs.

Government Structure

- A **unitary system** is one in which the central government makes decisions for the entire country.
- In a **federation**, the national government has some powers and others are reserved for local governments.
- Smaller political units keep their sovereignty and give the central government few powers in a **confederation**.

Government Authority

- Until modern times, most countries had **authoritarian** governments.
- A **dictatorship** is a government in which power is concentrated in few people, and **totalitarianism** is the most extreme form of dictatorship.
- The most common form of authoritarian government has been **monarchy**.
- Any country in which people choose their own leaders and set government policy is a **democracy**.

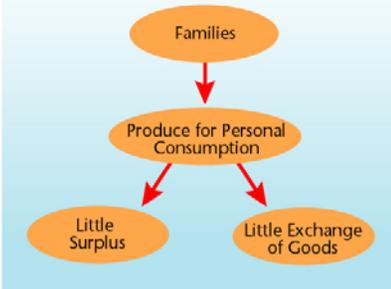


Types of Economic Systems

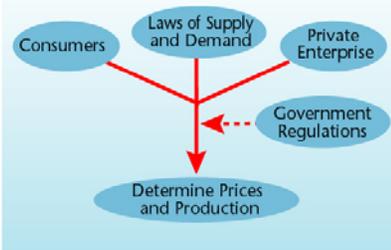


World Economic Systems

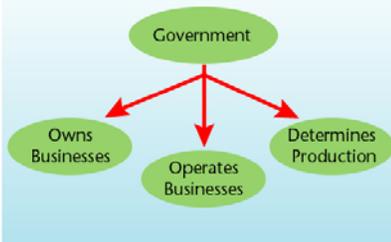
Traditional Economy



Market Economy



Command Economy



- In a **traditional economy**, nearly all goods and services produced by people are consumed by their own families or villages.
- A **market economy** is an economy in which individuals and groups have a great deal of freedom, and decisions are influenced by the “laws of supply and demand.”
- A **command economy** is an economic system that is controlled by a single, central government, and decisions are made to achieve political or social goals.
- A mixed economy, like socialism, includes elements of market and command economies.



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Section 2 Review



In a confederation, smaller political units

- a) have little power, and the central government makes all the decisions.**
- b) have powers reserved to them that the central government does not have.**
- c) retain their sovereignty, while the central government is very limited.**
- d) do not exist at all.**

Socialism is an example of a

- a) traditional economy.**
- b) market economy.**
- c) command economy.**
- d) mixed economy.**

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Section 2 Review



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