

BRIGHT SCHOLARS

AP + EXAM PREP



HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

REVIEW WORKBOOK

FOR THE MAY 2027 EXAM

Guided Review, Map Skills, FRQ Practice & 8-Week Exam Prep

Understand Place. Analyze Patterns. Think Globally.

**Diagnostic Test • 7 Unit Reviews • Original Maps & Models • Full-Length Practice Exam •
Complete Answer Key**

THIS BOOK BELONGS TO

Name _____

School / Teacher _____

Date Started _____

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1

Thinking Geographically

EXAM
WEIGHTING**8-10%**

BIG IDEA

Geography studies the patterns, processes, and relationships that shape places across space and scale.

WHAT YOU WILL MASTER

- ☐ Read and interpret different types of maps
- ☐ Identify and describe spatial patterns
- ☐ Explain the concept of scale
- ☐ Interpret geographic data and data sources
- ☐ Explain how people interact with their environments

CORE VOCABULARY

Absolute location
Situation
Region
GIS
Reference map

Relative location
Scale of analysis
Distance decay
GPS
Thematic map

Site
Spatial pattern
Time-space compression
Remote sensing
Possibilism

COMMON AP TRAPS

- Confusing place and region
- Ignoring scale: always ask what level of analysis is shown
- Describing a map without explaining the spatial pattern
- Thinking GIS and GPS are the same tool

UNIT GOAL

By the end of this unit, you can identify, describe, and explain core Thinking Geographically concepts using geographic reasoning.

IN THIS UNIT

Quick Review	21	Map It: Map Types	24	Write It: FRQ Practice	28
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UNIT 2 | QUICK REVIEW

Quick Review

1. Population Distribution vs. Density

Population distribution describes where people are located. **Population density** measures how many people live per unit of area. **Arithmetic density** = total population ÷ total land area.

2. Types of Population Density

Physiological density = population ÷ arable land, which shows pressure on food-producing land. **Agricultural density** = number of farmers ÷ arable land. High agricultural density suggests labor-intensive, less mechanized farming.

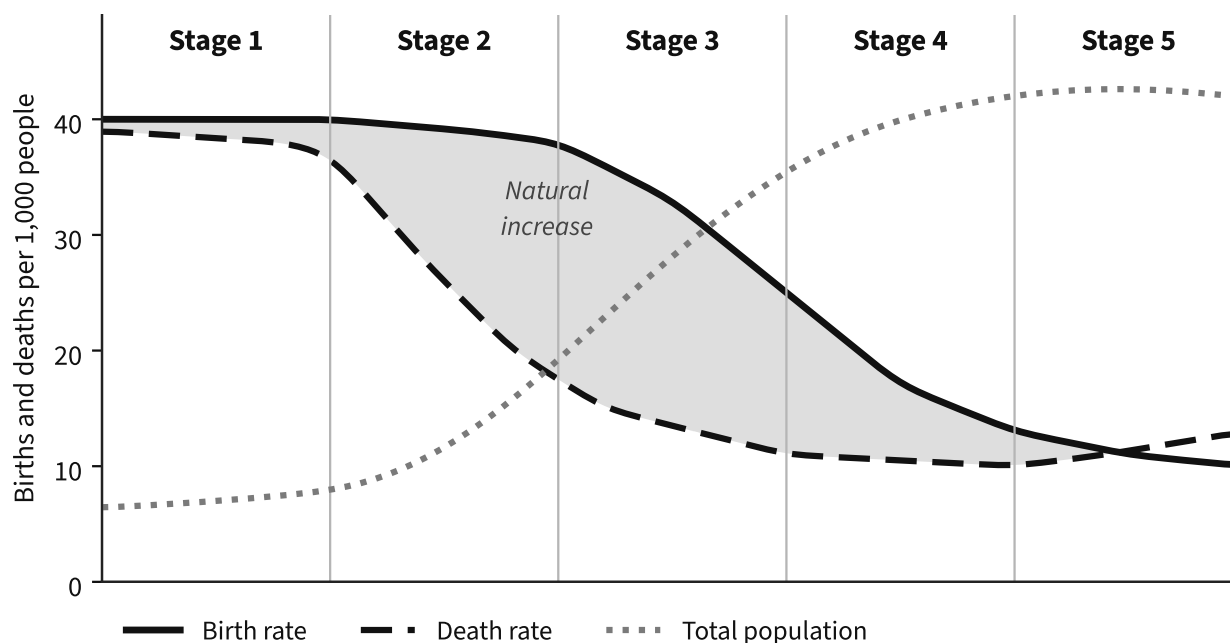
KNOW IT

When physiological density is much higher than arithmetic density, the country has very little arable land compared with its total area.

3. Population Growth Measures

Crude birth rate (CBR): births per 1,000 people per year. **Crude death rate (CDR)**: deaths per 1,000 people per year. **Natural increase rate (NIR)** = CBR – CDR, usually written as a percent. **Total fertility rate (TFR)**: average number of children per woman. **Infant mortality rate (IMR)**: deaths of infants under age 1 per 1,000 live births.

4. Demographic Transition Model (DTM)

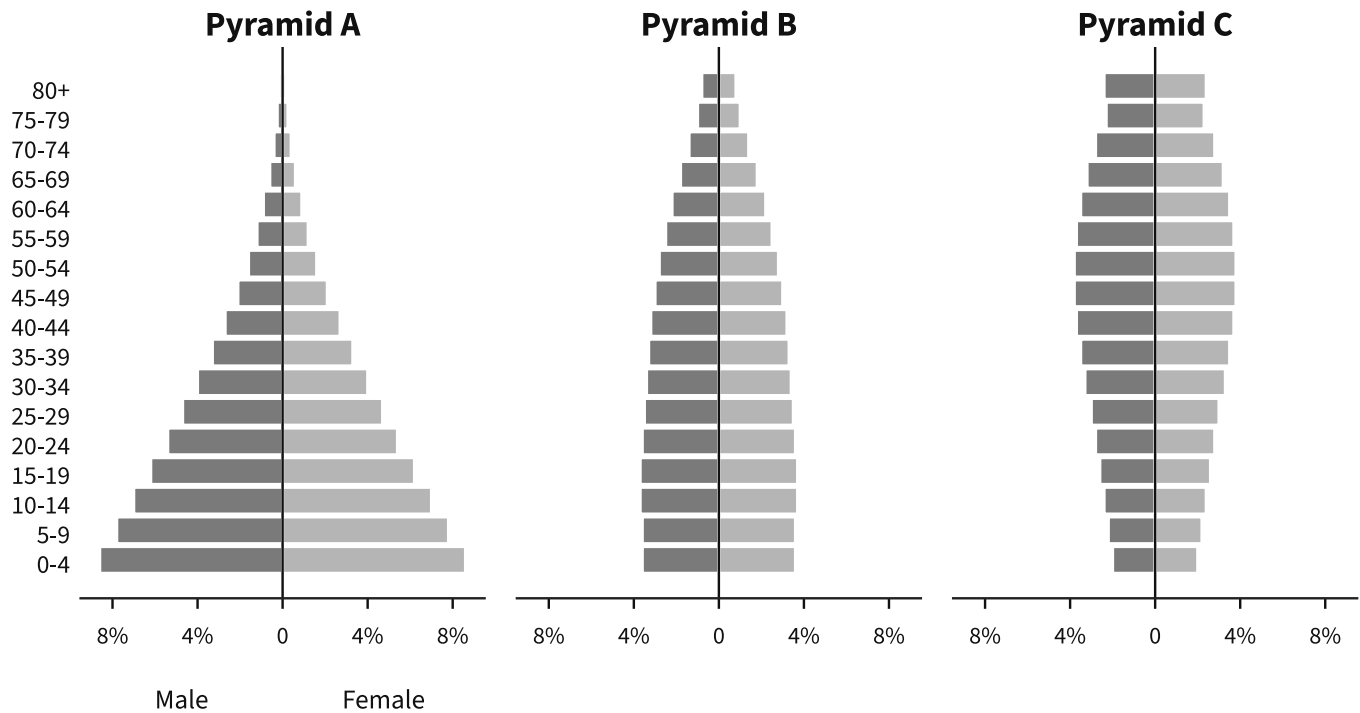


The Demographic Transition Model. The gap between the birth-rate and death-rate lines is natural increase.

UNIT 2 | ANALYZE IT: POPULATION PYRAMID LAB

Analyze It: Population Pyramid Lab

Study the three population pyramids. Each bar shows the share of the population in a five-year age group (males left, females right).



Three population pyramid shapes.

Question	Pyramid A	Pyramid B	Pyramid C
Which has the youngest population?			
Which may face an aging-population challenge?			
Which likely needs more schools?			
Which needs more eldercare facilities?			
Which may face a shrinking labor force?			
Most likely DTM stage			

UNIT 6 | AP-STYLE PRACTICE

AP-Style Practice

Circle the letter of the best answer.

- 1 Which urban model best describes a city where different land uses extend in wedge-shaped zones from the CBD along transportation corridors?

☐ (A) Concentric Zone Model	☐ (B) Sector Model
☐ (C) Multiple Nuclei Model	☐ (D) Galactic City Model
- 2 A city of 15 million people growing rapidly through rural-to-urban migration is best classified as a

☐ (A) world city	☐ (B) edge city	☐ (C) galactic city	☐ (D) megacity
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- 3 Gentrification most directly results in which of the following?

☐ (A) Increased investment and the displacement of lower-income residents
☐ (B) Decreased property values
☐ (C) Suburbanization of middle-income families
☐ (D) Reduced density in the CBD
- 4 Lagos has a much larger population than Zurich, yet Zurich is often ranked higher as a world city. Which best explains this?

☐ (A) Zurich covers a larger land area.
☐ (B) World city rankings are based on population growth rates.
☐ (C) Zurich has a higher population density.
☐ (D) Zurich hosts major global financial firms and decision-making functions.
- 5 The Latin American City Model differs from the Concentric Zone Model primarily because it

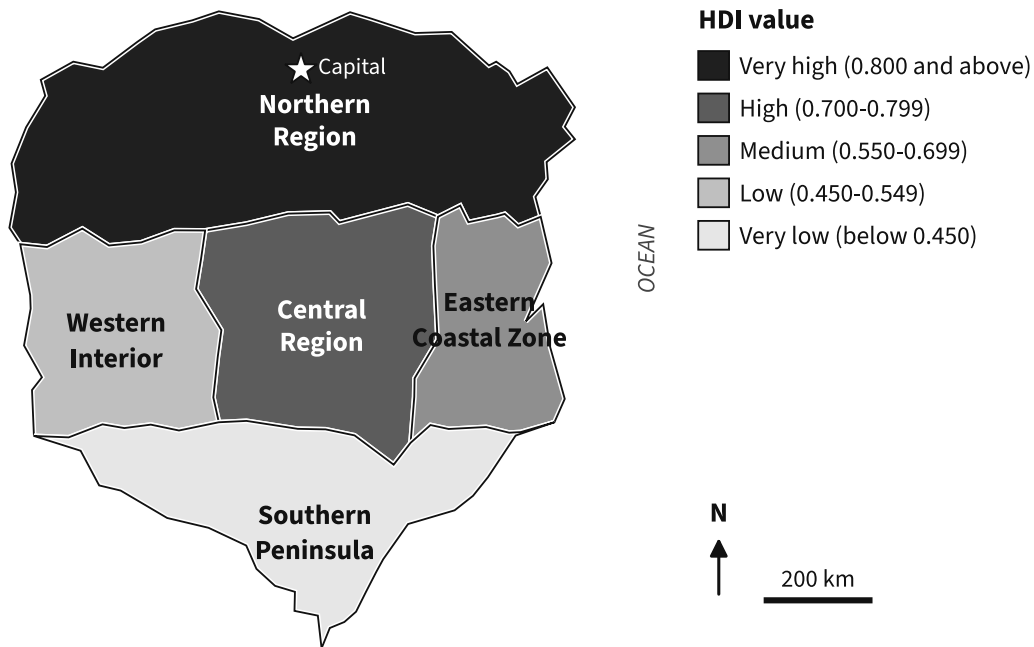
☐ (A) places industrial zones in the center
☐ (B) assumes transit corridors shape all land use
☐ (C) includes a commercial spine and peripheral informal settlements
☐ (D) has no central business district
- 6 Which is the best example of urban sprawl?

☐ (A) Affordable housing towers built in the city center
☐ (B) Low-density subdivisions expanding into farmland at the metropolitan edge
☐ (C) Increased density in inner-city neighborhoods near transit
☐ (D) Mixed-use development that reduces car dependence

PRACTICE

Practice 3: Choropleth Map

The choropleth map below shows the fictional country of Varenna. Darker shading indicates a higher Human Development Index (HDI) value.



Varenna: HDI by region (fictional data).

- 1 Which region has the highest HDI? What type of economy might it have?

- 2 Describe the overall spatial pattern using the MAPS method.

Answer Key

Answers to multiple-choice questions include a short explanation. For open-ended activities, sample answers show one strong response; other well-reasoned answers can also be correct.

Diagnostic Test

Multiple Choice (p. 9)

1. **A** Relative location describes position in relation to other places.
2. **B** A choropleth map uses graduated shading to show values by area.
3. **D** Scale of analysis is the geographic level at which a pattern is studied.
4. **B** GIS overlays and analyzes multiple spatial data layers.
5. **C** $50,000,000 \div 500,000 = 100$ people per sq km.
6. **C** Stage 2 combines high birth rates with rapidly falling death rates.
7. **A** Chain migration follows family and community contacts already in the destination.
8. **C** TFR is the average number of children a woman is expected to have in her lifetime.
9. **D** Much higher physiological density means little arable land relative to population.
10. **A** Spreading from major cities to smaller places is hierarchical diffusion.
11. **C** The cultural landscape is the visible human imprint on the environment.
12. **C** Stimulus diffusion adapts an idea to a local context.
13. **A** Global brands and media can reduce regional cultural distinctions.
14. **D** Devolution transfers power from the central government to regions.
15. **C** Geometric boundaries follow straight lines such as latitude or longitude.
16. **A** Supranationalism pools some state sovereignty in shared institutions.
17. **B** A shared language and history are centripetal forces.
18. **B** Perishable, high-value dairy and market gardening locate closest to the market.
19. **A** The Green Revolution spread high-yield seeds, irrigation, and fertilizers in developing regions.
20. **D** Shifting cultivation farms a cleared plot temporarily, then moves on.
21. **D** Food security depends on access and distribution, not production alone.
22. **A** The Concentric Zone Model arranges land uses in rings around the CBD.
23. **C** Gentrification brings reinvestment, rising rents, and possible displacement.
24. **D** A world city is defined by its role in the global economy, not its population.
25. **D** Mixed land use reduces car dependence.
26. **B** Rising rents, rising incomes, and new upscale businesses signal gentrification.

27. **B** HDI combines income, education, and life expectancy.
28. **D** Periphery countries typically supply raw materials and low-cost labor.
29. **A** Moving production to another country is offshoring.
30. **B** Unlicensed street vending is informal economic activity.
31. **C** Country C has the strongest development indicators, consistent with the core.
32. **A** Healthcare and primary education directly target infant mortality and literacy.
33. **B** Country B's indicators fall between the low- and high-development cases.
34. **B** Life expectancy most directly reflects population health.

Diagnostic FRQ (Sample Answers) (p. 9)

A. Employment, higher wages, education, healthcare, safety, or family networks. **B.** Rapid migration can strain housing, water, sanitation, roads, transit, schools, or healthcare, leading to overcrowding or informal settlements. **C.** The city could expand affordable housing, transit, water and sanitation systems, schools, or other infrastructure to accommodate growth.

Unit 1: Thinking Geographically

Go Deeper (p. 22)

1. Possibilism: irrigation and desalination show that technology and human decisions expand what is possible within environmental limits. **2.** Determinism ignores culture, technology, and choice, and it was historically used to justify claims of cultural superiority; possibilism better explains why similar environments produce different outcomes. **3.** (a) formal (a measurable trait); (b) functional (organized around a node); (c) perceptual (boundaries depend on shared ideas).

Key Terms in Context (p. 23)

1. absolute location **2.** relative location **3.** scale of analysis **4.** site **5.** time-space compression **6.** distance decay **7.** GIS.

Apply It (sample): “Spatial association exists between coffee shops and office districts, because both cluster where workers gather.” “Time-space compression lets a team in Tokyo and a team in Toronto collaborate in real time.”

Map It and Scale Practice (p. 24)

Map It (sample): dark shading usually means higher values; a dot cluster shows concentration; a population cartogram enlarges South and East Asia. **Scale Practice:** patterns that look uniform at one scale can split into sharp local differences at another; national maps average away neighborhood gaps in service; the city (neighborhood) scale is best for planning a bus route because it shows where riders actually live and travel.

AP-Style Practice (p. 26)

1. **D** Hilltop, springs, and soil are physical features of the site itself.