

Multiple Choice Questions—The Uses of Geography

1. What is one of the main reasons cities began to evolve?
 - a. People wanted to live closer to the places where food was produced.
 - b. An agricultural surplus allowed people to settle down.
 - c. Kings ordered people to congregate together.
 - d. People wanted more opportunities to raise domestic animals.
2. Which statement best describes people's perceptions of and attitudes toward places?
 - a. Most people change their perceptions of places many times throughout their lives.
 - b. Attitudes toward places tend to stay the same over generations.
 - c. Perceptions of certain types of places can change dramatically over just a few generations.
 - d. A place's environmental features usually determine the perceptions people have of that place.
3. Which statement best describes the role of advertising in affecting perceptions of places?
 - a. Ads have been used to portray places as idyllic and to persuade people to visit those places.
 - b. Statistics show that ads have little overall impact on people's perceptions of places.
 - c. Ads are only effective when they show beautiful scenery.
 - d. The railroads used ads primarily to encourage people to move to the West.
4. How did early European settlers' attitudes toward the forest and its resources differ from Native Americans' attitudes toward the forest?
 - a. Native Americans tended to view the forest as an obstacle to farming, while settlers tended to make more thorough use of the forest's resources.
 - b. Settlers appreciated the benefits of firewood to a greater degree than Native Americans did.
 - c. Settlers tended to view the forest as an obstacle to farming, while Native Americans tended to make more thorough use of the forest's resources.
 - d. Native Americans viewed the forest as dangerous, while settlers ventured deep into the forest to extract its resources.

5. Which of the following events would have least likely affected the outcome of a single battle in the American Revolution?
 - a. the weather
 - b. the locations and routes of rivers
 - c. the locations of settlements of Native Americans friendly to the colonists
 - d. a plague of locusts
6. Historically, what has been one of the most significant factors people have considered when determining where to settle?
 - a. whether the soil contains enough nitrogen
 - b. how often swarms of locusts arrive
 - c. whether anyone has farmed the land in the past
 - d. the location of water sources
7. Which factor probably did not play a major role in the “success” of the triangular trade, from the point of view of European colonists and slave traders?
 - a. the work habits of African slaves
 - b. wind patterns
 - c. soil quality in the American Southeast
 - d. the existence of a sea route from Europe to Africa
8. If you look at a map of counties in Illinois and a map of counties of Virginia, what would you expect to be the main difference?
 - a. There would be no noticeable difference.
 - b. Illinois’ counties would appear more rectangular than Virginia’s.
 - c. Virginia would have much larger counties than those in Illinois.
 - d. Virginia’s counties would be more rectangular than those in Illinois.
9. Which of the following statements is true?
 - a. More people suffer from liver disease in affluent areas than in poorer areas.
 - b. Liver disease in rural Virginia can be attributed to high rates of smoking.
 - c. People in rural Virginia tend to suffer from higher rates of liver disease than people in suburban Virginia.
 - d. There is no correlation between where a person lives and his or her health.

10. What is one disadvantage of solar power?
- a. The equipment used to harness it is rather expensive and not readily available to most people.
 - b. It's very difficult to determine the best places to locate solar panels.
 - c. The technology does not exist for solar power to be widely used.
 - d. No city officials are qualified enough to assess the benefits of solar power.
11. What is one important geographic factor to take into account when determining where to locate a major new facility (e.g., a hospital, a power plant) in a town?
- a. how often the facility will need to be renovated
 - b. who will manage the facility
 - c. when to set the construction deadline
 - d. the location of water sources
12. Imagine that you're in charge of deciding where to allocate money for a local or regional transportation project. Which of the following would probably not prove useful in helping you determine where to spend this money?
- a. analyzing transportation usage in another city to see what works there
 - b. taking a survey of townspeople's opinions about transportation changes they'd like to see
 - c. analyzing the locations of another city's power plants
 - d. analyzing current transportation patterns and usage in your town
13. Why are scientific models helpful in planning for the future?
- a. They help us understand the layout of the current infrastructure.
 - b. They enable us to predict different outcomes based on different scenarios.
 - c. They help us better understand historic trends.
 - d. They let us know with certainty how things will be in 50 years.
14. If current rates of deforestation continue, satellite images of the tropical rain forest in 100 years will be:
- a. about the same as today
 - b. much more red than today
 - c. much more purple than today
 - d. much more greenish-gray than today

15. Which statement about ecotourism is true?
- a. Some ecotourism hotels are more environmentally conscious than others.
 - b. Most ecotourism hotels emphasize birdwatching.
 - c. Costa Rica has not been particularly successful in its ecotourism initiatives.
 - d. An avid hiker would probably be bored on an ecotourism tour.
16. Which of the following is not a likely environmental impact resulting from building a beach resort with many hotels?
- a. Coral reefs might suffer from the extra “traffic” of scuba divers and snorkelers.
 - b. If the hotels are not careful, raw sewage could escape into the ocean.
 - c. Sea turtles who typically lay eggs on the beach will have fewer places to nest.
 - d. If the resort is “eco-friendly” enough, the beach and coastal ecosystems may actually improve.
17. Which of the following statements best describes the human impacts of large-scale resort tourism in a developing country?
- a. Most tourists make donations to social welfare funds in the countries they visit.
 - b. Large Western corporations tend to shy away from investing in resorts in developing countries.
 - c. Many new jobs get created, but the towns in which the resorts are located don’t often see improvements to their infrastructures or achieve a higher quality of life for residents.
 - d. Most tourists get to know the locals and learn some of their language.
18. Which of the following is not an example of a step that towns commonly take to improve their physical environments?
- a. adding more lanes to freeways in order to improve traffic
 - b. designing greenbelts in or around the town
 - c. improving water quality
 - d. encouraging people to bike to work
19. What of the following is true about the mandate for how the National Park Service should manage and use America’s national parks?
- a. The mandate for the National Park Service calls for the parks to be privatized.
 - b. The mandate for the National Park Service calls for the parks to do whatever is necessary to increase tourism.
 - c. The mandate for the National Park Service calls for the parks to be preserved in their wild state but also to be accessible for people’s enjoyment.
 - d. The mandate for the National Park Service calls for the parks to be as accessible as possible to people with various types of disabilities.

20. Which of the following provides an example of how different people can have different perceptions of a place?
- a. Jim can't wait to visit Yellowstone National Park, and his kids are getting pretty excited about it too.
 - b. Samantha loved reading all about the tropical rainforest, but when she got to Brazil she couldn't stand the humidity, heat, and insects.
 - c. Larry will never visit Death Valley again after he nearly died of heatstroke there last summer.
 - d. Maria loves her hometown but resents the tourists who come in their fancy cars and spend little money. Jose is one of those tourists, and he thinks the town is a great place to buy a soda, take a scenic picture, and then leave for a prettier town up the road.