

## Chapter 8: Political Geography

### *The Five Steps to Chapter Success*

- Step 1: Read the Chapter Summary below, preview the Key Questions, and Geographic Concepts.
- Step 2: Complete the Pre-Reading Activity (PRA) for this chapter.
- Step 3: Read the chapter and complete the guided worksheet.
- Step 4: As you read the chapter, complete the World Region Map Sheets (WRMS) for every world map.
- Step 5: Quiz yourself on key concepts and key questions.

### *Step 1: Chapter Summary, Key Questions, and Geographic Concepts*

#### **Chapter Summary**

We tend to take the state for granted, but the modern state idea is less than 400 years old. The idea and ideal of the nation-state have diffused around the globe in the wake of colonialism and the emergence of the modern international legal order.

The state may seem natural and permanent, but it is not. New states are being recognized, and existing states are vulnerable to destructive forces. How long can this way of politically organizing space last?

As we look to arrangements beyond the state, we can turn to the global scale and consider what places the global world economy most affects, shapes, and benefits. In the next chapter, we study global cities with major links in the world economy. Global cities dominate their surroundings and connect with each other across the world in many ways that transcend the state.

Two political trends dominate the early twenty-first century. First, after a half century dominated by the Cold War between two superpowers - the United States and the former Soviet Union - the world has entered a period characterized by an unprecedented increase in the number of new states created to satisfy the desire for nationalities for self-determination as an expression of cultural distinctiveness. Turmoil has resulted because in many cases the boundaries of the new state do not precisely match the territories occupied by distinct nationalities.

At the same time, with the end of the Cold War, military alliances have become less important than patterns of global and regional economic cooperation and competition among states. Economic cooperation has increased among neighboring states in Western Europe and North America, and competition among these two blocs, as well as Japan has increased.

Key Questions	Page #
Field Note: Independence is Better Than Servitude	249-252
1. How is space politically organized into states and nations	
2. How do states spatially organize their governments?	
3. How are boundaries established, and why do boundary disputes occur?	

Key Questions	Page #
4. How does the study of geopolitics help us understand the world?	
5. What are supranational organizations, and what is the future of the nation state?	

## Chapter 7: Religion

Geographic Concepts		
state territory territoriality sovereignty territorial integrity mercantilism Peace of Westphalia nation-state nation democracy multinational state multistate nation stateless nation colonialism geopolitics imperialism democratization communism metropolitan governance confederation centralized government unitary state federal microstates frontier self-determination	colony capitalism scale world-systems theory commodification periphery semiperiphery ability centripetal centrifugal devolution unitary federal electoral geography territorial representation reapportionment majority-minority districts gerrymandering boundary delimit demarcate geometric boundary physical-political boundary political ecology compact state prorupted state elongated state fragmented state perforated state landlocked state	definitional boundary dispute locational boundary dispute operational boundary dispute allocational boundary dispute heartland theory NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) critical geopolitics Cold War <i>Evil Empire</i> <i>Axis of Evil</i> unilateralism supranational organization apartheid Marshall Plan EU (European Union) NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) Gulf War deterritorialization reterritorialization terrorism globalization balance of power superpowers



3. Preview the entire chapter and look at all the maps, tables, charts, and pictures. Read the captions. Briefly describe IN YOUR OWN WORDS charts, photos, or figures from the chapter.

Page #	Figure #	Description in your own words
	8.2	
	8.6	
	8.9	
	8.16	

4. How many world maps are there in this chapter? \_\_\_\_\_ (You will need one WMRS for each one).

5. Read the Field Note introduction of the chapter and list five specific facts you learned.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Political Geography

1. Choose 10 geographic concepts that you think you know and tell me in which unit we have covered it and in what context.

Geographic Concept	Where have we seen this already?

2. Why do boundaries between states cause problems? Describe different types of boundary disputes. Draw a geometric boundary and a political-physical boundary.

3. Choose 20 geographic concepts that you need to learn and write the definition *IN YOUR OWN WORDS*.

Geographic Concept	Definition in your own words

Geographic Concept	Definition in your own words

Geographic Concept	Definition in your own words

**4. Draw a timeline with at least 10 events outlining the evolution of supranational organizations from the League of Nations to the EU.**



5. *How does the study of geopolitics help us understand the world?*

6.

Geographer	Contribution to the study of political geography	Importance and what geographic concepts does it connect to?
Rhys Jones		
George White		
Immanuel Wallerstein		

<b>Geographer</b>	<b>Contribution to the study of political geography</b>	<b>Importance and what geographic concepts does it connect to?</b>
Richard Hartshorne		
Jonathan Lieb and Gerald Webster		
Friedrich Ratzel		
Sir Halford J. Mackinder		
Gearoid O'Tuathail		
Samuel Huntington		

**6. Quiz yourself on the following multiple choice questions**

Geographers define \_\_\_\_\_ as the study of the political organization of the world.

- a) political science
- b) political geography
- c) political economy
- d) politics
- e) the United Nations

Stateless nations \_\_\_\_\_

- a) are states too small to appear on world political maps.
- b) represent the United Nations' effort to establish peace on Earth
- c) represent one of the complications that arise from the imperfect fit between nations and states.
- d) do not exist in the modern world.
- e) have state boundaries but no national boundaries.

World systems theory \_\_\_\_\_

- a) suggests that the world economy has one market and a global division of labor.
- b) suggests that almost everything takes place within the context of the world economy
- c) suggests that the world economy has a three tiered structure.
- d) suggests that the core and the periphery are not only places, but also sites where particular processes take place.
- e) all of the above

\_\_\_\_\_ are boundaries that follow an agreed-upon feature in the natural landscape.

- a) geometric boundaries
- b) rivers of demarcation
- c) physical-political boundaries
- d) fences
- e) treaties

\_\_\_\_\_ is an example of supranationalism

- a) EU
- b) NAFTA
- c) NATO
- d) WHO
- e) all of the above