Sample Exam Questions

The sample exam questions that follow illustrate the relationship between the course framework and AP Human Geography Exam and serve as examples of the types of questions that appear on the exam. After the sample questions you will find a table that shows which skill, learning objective(s), and unit each question relates to. The table also provides the answers to the multiple-choice questions.

Section I: Multiple-Choice Questions

The following are examples of the kinds of multiple-choice questions found on the exam.

1. Which of the following is a characteristic of a country moving from stage 2 to stage 3 of the demographic transition model?
   (A) Shorter life expectancy
   (B) Increasing birth rate
   (C) High level of female education
   (D) Declining death rate
   (E) Increasing dependence on farm labor
2. The Berlin Conference of 1884–1885 and the partition of India in 1947 changed borders in Africa and South Asia and are reflected in the current world map. Which of the following best describes the type of political border resulting from these events?

(A) Relict boundaries
(B) Antecedent boundaries
(C) Consequent boundaries
(D) Superimposed boundaries
(E) Subsequent boundaries
Questions 3–5 refer to the image below.

3. Which of the following is the land survey system shown in the satellite image?
   (A) Multiple nuclei
   (B) Suburban subdivision
   (C) Long lots
   (D) Metes and bounds
   (E) Township and range

4. In reading the landscape of the image, a geographer will most likely identify the land-survey pattern shown as typical of which of the following locations?
   (A) A rural agricultural region in the United States
   (B) An exurb of Paris, France
   (C) A coastal region of China
   (D) An agricultural region of eastern Canada
   (E) A rainforest development in southern Brazil
5. Technologies invented during which of the following periods explain how farmland was divided and cultivated as shown in the satellite image?

(A) Columbian Exchange, when the use of Old World farm animals such as cows and horses was introduced.
(B) First Agricultural Revolution, when the animal-powered plow and domesticated plants were developed.
(C) Second Agricultural Revolution, when land-surveying technology and mechanical plows were developed.
(D) Modern era, when local farmers used computers and data analysis.
(E) Postindustrial era, when local farmers used global positioning systems and geographic information systems.

6. Which of the following factors best explains the development and expansion of squatter settlements?

(A) Gentrification of megacities in more developed countries displacing large numbers of urban dwellers
(B) Rapid urbanization and inability of infrastructure to keep pace with the growth of megacities in developing countries
(C) Urban dwellers seeking residential housing and shopping outside the congestion of the city
(D) Zoning laws in developing countries that prevent current urban dwellers from obtaining land to build residential structures
(E) The growth of urban agriculture encouraging migrant farm workers to move to cities requiring more housing

7. The lush golf courses in the United Arab Emirates, the dikes and polders in the Netherlands, and the Three Gorges Dam in China are significant examples of land use. Which of the following viewpoints of human-environment interaction are best described by these land-use examples?

(A) Environmental determinism
(B) Ecotourism
(C) Possibilism
(D) Heartland theory
(E) Malthusian theory
Questions 8 and 9 refer to the following chart.

![Chart: Total Coal Miner Employment Versus Productivity, United States, 1920-2015](chart)

Source: Energy Information Agency

8. Which of the following processes accounts for the change in coal miners employed in the United States from 1950 to 2000?
   (A) Technological diffusion
   (B) Just-in-time production
   (C) Industrial revolution
   (D) Devolution
   (E) Deindustrialization

9. Compare the bar graph showing coal mine employment and the line graph showing miner production. Which of the following conclusions can be drawn from trends in this data?
   (A) Coal mining has been outsourced to less-developed countries.
   (B) Mechanization and computer automation in mining have increased.
   (C) Legal restrictions have been imposed on the amount of coal exported overseas.
   (D) Renewable resources are being used more frequently to power vehicles.
   (E) Natural gas and oil production of electricity has declined.

10. Which of the following is a pull factor affecting migration to some of the more developed countries?
    (A) Loss of factory jobs
    (B) Severe famine
    (C) The rise of an authoritarian regime
    (D) Universal health care
    (E) Religious persecution
11. Based on the map, which of the following languages are most likely to be spoken in counties where 60 percent or more of residents spoke a language other than English at home?

(A) French and French Creole languages
(B) Spanish and American Indian languages
(C) German and Dutch
(D) Russian and Hindi
(E) Chinese and Arabic
12. Which of the following best explains a neo-Malthusian perspective on the Green Revolution?
   (A) The Green Revolution represents a jump in agricultural technology, but population will still grow faster than our ability to produce food will over the long run.
   (B) The Green Revolution solves the entire problem of feeding the planet, and Malthusian ideas are no longer relevant.
   (C) Local food production is the key to long-term food production.
   (D) The distribution of food in a capitalist system results in too many people being unable to afford basic foods.
   (E) The increase in the food supply and a resulting increase in the population available for farm labor will solve the food crisis.

TOP FIVE MUNICIPALITIES: CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES

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<tr>
<th>China City</th>
<th>Population</th>
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<td>Chongqing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shanghai</td>
<td>23.0 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beijing</td>
<td>19.6 million</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>United States City</th>
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<td>Houston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phoenix</td>
<td>1.6 million</td>
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Source: Population Reference Bureau, United States Census Bureau

13. Compare the largest municipality populations for each country, and then select the following statement that correctly draws a conclusion regarding the pattern in the data.
   (A) China has a primate city, and the United States follows the rank-size rule.
   (B) Both countries follow the rank-size rule.
   (C) Neither country follows the rank-size rule.
   (D) Both countries have a primate city.
   (E) The United States has a primate city, and China follows the rank-size rule.
14. Which of the following correctly pairs a global religion described with its hearth region of origin?
   (A) Buddhism and East Asia
   (B) Christianity and Latin America
   (C) Islam and Central Asia
   (D) Hinduism and South Asia
   (E) Judaism and eastern Europe

15. The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea sets the limit of the exclusive economic zone at 200 nautical miles from a country’s coastline. In cases where countries are less than 400 nautical miles apart at sea, which of the following explains how the exclusive economic zone boundary is determined for each country?
   (A) Both countries will state their case to the United Nations during a hearing of the Security Council.
   (B) Both countries will follow the median-line principle.
   (C) Both countries will share all of the water area.
   (D) Neither country can claim the area as an exclusive economic zone because the area is considered international water.
   (E) Both countries will receive increased territorial sea claims up to 24 nautical miles but will have no exclusive economic zone.

Section II: Free-Response Questions

The following are examples of the kinds of free-response questions found on the exam. Note that on the actual AP Exam, there will be three free-response questions.

Free-Response Question—no stimulus (Question 1 on AP Exam)

In most countries, the concept of the state as a political unit is subject to the tensions between centrifugal and centripetal forces. Governments are often challenged by the devolutionary factors that challenge state sovereignty.

(A) Define the concept of the multinational state.

(B) Explain how ethnicity can be a factor that leads to the devolution of a state.

(C) Explain how communication technology plays an important role in the goals of devolutionary groups and democracy movements.

(D) Explain the limitations of communication technology in furthering the goals of devolutionary groups and democracy movements.

(E) Describe ONE centripetal force that governments use to promote the state as a nation.

(F) Explain how uneven development within a state can act as a centrifugal force.

(G) For a multinational state facing the realities of devolution, explain why a government would choose to create an autonomous region or choose to maintain a unitary state.
Free-Response Question—two stimuli (Question 3 on AP Exam)

NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI, INDIA, POPULATION CHANGE

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<th>Census Year</th>
<th>1991</th>
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<td>Total population</td>
<td>9,420,644</td>
<td>13,850,507</td>
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<td>Population density per square mile</td>
<td>17,771</td>
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<td>31,669</td>
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COMMUTERS IN DELHI, INDIA

Source: Getty Images / Hindustan Times

(See Free-response question 3 on next page.)
The National Capital Territory of Delhi, India, includes the old city of Delhi; the national capital city of New Delhi; and surrounding districts, where much of the city's population resides.

(A) Describe the data in the table that classifies Delhi as a megacity.

(B) Describe a pull factor that has contributed to Delhi's total population change over time.

(C) Explain how local housing development has contributed to the change in Delhi's population density, as shown in the data table.

(D) Given Delhi's population density, describe a challenge related to urban infrastructure that the city's government is likely to face.

(E) Explain the challenge to Delhi's local environmental sustainability that is shown in the photograph.

(F) Explain the degree to which India's level of economic development as a country contributes to Delhi's local challenges to environmental sustainability.

(G) Explain a possible solution to the challenge of environmental sustainability that is shown in the photograph.
Answer Key and Question Alignment to Course Framework

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<th>Multiple-Choice Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Learning Objective</th>
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The scoring information for the questions within this course and exam description, along with further exam resources, can be found on the AP Human Geography Exam Page on AP Central.