

Chapter 8

Political Geography

1. What is a state? What 4-5 factors have to be in place for an area to be considered a state?
2. Why is there debate regarding the number of states in the world?
3. What is a nation? How does a nation evolve into a nation-state?
4. Why was the nation-state ideal seen as the vehicle for stability? Why has this ideal not been realized in the modern era?
5. Describe how multinational states devolve - site specific examples.
6. Name two prominent stateless nations and why they are the source of tension and violence?
7. How did European colonialism lead to the diffusion of the nation-state model?
8. How did colonialism help create an integrated world economy?
9. What is world-systems theory? How does this theory explain the geography of wealth in the world today?
10. Make a "t" chart with centrifugal and centripetal forces. Define each term and give 4-5 examples for both terms.
11. How are governments organized geographically? Why is there a move towards more federalism?
12. What is devolution? Describe some prominent ethnocultural devolutionary movements.
13. Describe some basic economic devolutionary forces with examples.
14. How do territorial aspects influence devolutionary movements?
15. What are the five basic shapes of states and what are 2-3 prominent examples?
16. What is reapportionment and how has this influenced gerrymandering?
17. What are the two basic types of political boundaries – give examples?
18. Explain in detail the different types of geometric political boundary types – give examples?
19. Make a chart of boundary disputes with the definition and examples.
20. Compare and contrast the German and British/American school of classical geopolitics.
21. How have geopoliticians influenced politics?
22. What are supranational organizations, and what is the future of the state?