

Multiple-Choice Answers

1. (D)

Nonmaterial culture refers to components of culture that are not physically graspable, such as religious beliefs, communication patterns, customs, and philosophies, such as (D). The other choices are examples of material culture—that which is tangible or physical—such as technology, architecture, food, and clothing.

2. (D)

Possibilism teaches that humans take the natural environment's opportunities and limitations and innovate from them. It is an argument against environmental determinism, which says that human behavior is directed by the environment. (D) represents possibilism because humans took the coal deposits in the Ruhr region and used them to industrialize and create army technology. The other choices represent the principle from environmental determinism that the environment *directed* human activity and outcomes.

3. (C)

Carl Sauer was one of the first to realize that humans modified the landscape in ways that told something about their culture. (A) championed the idea of environmental determinism; (B) developed the central place theory; (D) wrote the book *Edge Cities*, which discusses the development of areas outside metropolises; and (E) developed least cost theory.

4. (A)

Cultural convergence occurs when a culture adopts traits from another culture with which it comes into contact. Peter the Great brought the culture trait of Western dance back with him to the Russian people, many of whom adopted that European trait. (B) is the theory that a generation of inhabitants of a space leave behind imprints from which succeeding generations learn, as when occupiers of a region leave buildings behind for the next occupiers to use and adapt. (C) is usually an isolated, unique culture that is not infused with popular culture. (D) implies a culture that is not in contact with other cultures, which is not the case in this scenario of Peter the Great's contact with Western culture. (E) occurs when the original traits of a culture are completely erased by those of a more dominant culture.

5. (B)

Migrant diffusion is a form of relocation diffusion in which the core (or epicenter) of the diffusing phenomenon follows its wave of diffusion, such as the wave in a stadium, when crowds stand and then sit. The phenomenon tends to die out after a short time and after the wave of diffusion has moved on to new sites of adoption (or infection). The diffusion of excitement surrounding the band's concerts is similar in that the crowds in cities where he played were energized by the concert, but that excitement died down shortly after the concert finished. New excitement was drummed up (pun intended) in the next city the band went to. (A) occurs when a phenomenon diffuses from large or powerful places (or people) to smaller ones. The question states that there was no order of large or small city in the band's pattern,

which also rules out (D) because it is a pattern of diffusion from smaller to larger places or importance levels. (C) occurs when the diffusing phenomenon is adapted by the new adopters to fit their needs. (E) is a form of expansion diffusion when the phenomenon spreads according to proximity to the core, regardless of size or importance level. However, in (E), the phenomenon tends to maintain its strength in all places infected rather than weakening, as in migrant diffusion.

6. **(C)**

Islam is a universalizing religion, meaning that it believes its teachings are appropriate for all people. Therefore, like Christianity and Sikhism, it seeks converts. The other choices are ethnic religions, which are based in a particular place or cultural group. Ethnic religions do not actively seek converts.

7. **(B)**

The Semitic Hearth in Southwest Asia is home to the origins of the three largest monotheistic religions on the earth: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Hinduism and Buddhism have their hearths in the land near the Indus and Ganges rivers, and the Chinese religions (or faiths), Shintoism, Taoism, and Confucianism, started in China.

8. **(C)**

The country of Pakistan was formed in 1947 as a Muslim state in an attempt to end infighting within India between Hindus and Muslims. It is nearly 97 percent Muslim, making it one of the most populated countries in the world with a Muslim majority. (A) is heavily Roman Catholic, (B) has tensions between Roman Catholics and Protestants, (D) is nearly 70 percent Buddhist, and (E) is nearly 81 percent nonbelievers (people who do not identify with a religion or faith).

9. **(B)**

The two major branches of Islam are Sunni and Shiite. Shintoism is a blending of Buddhist teachings and local beliefs in Japan. Shamanism is an ethnic religion that follows a shaman, or holy man.

10. **(E)**

Mecca, Saudi Arabia, is the holiest site for all Muslims, followed by Medina and then Jerusalem.

11. **(C)**

India's formal caste system involved a strict segregation of society based on a person's family and occupation. The untouchables were the lowest caste and suffered almost complete social isolation. Recent political reforms have reduced the effects of the caste system in attempting to create more of a meritocracy, in which people's education and effort play more of a role in economic and social promotion.

12. (C)

Shamanism is a practice in many traditional societies in which there is a spiritual truth knower, a shaman, who is a guide for the local community or tribe. It has its greatest presence in sub-Saharan Africa, a region in which missionary work of universalizing religions is competing for dominance

13. (D)

The dominant, native language in India is Hindi, which is an Indo-European language. Dravidian languages also have a presence in India, but not dominance. (A) dominates in East Asia, (C) in Africa, and (E) in Central Asia and Turkey.

14. (D)

Canada's French-speaking minority (known as Francophones) has pushed for greater political and cultural recognition from the English-speaking (Anglophone) majority-run government and culture. Canadians have been considering a voting referendum on whether Quebec's French-speaking region should secede from Greater Canada. Though there have been tensions in (A), (B), and (E) surrounding multilingualism, widespread threats of secession have not arisen. (C) is nearly monolingual.

15. (E)

A lingua franca is a language used by speakers of different languages to facilitate trade-based communication or some sort of transaction. A pidgin language (D) is a simplified form of a language used by a people dominated by the speakers of that new language, usually in the case of a colonized people. It is not the correct answer to this question because the two groups are using a third language, English, to communicate. The question even stipulates that it is "authentic" English, not a simplified, pidginized form of English. (A) is a pidgin that has been adopted by a people and formalized into a language or dialect, taught even to the children. (B) is a major division in a language family, and (C) is a geographical boundary of a certain linguistic feature, such as word usage.