

Unit Three Vocabulary

Nation: tightly knit group of people sharing a common language, ethnicity, religion, and other cultural attributes

State: politically organized territory administered by a sovereign government, with permanent population and recognized by the international community

Nation-State: a state whose population possesses a substantial degree of cultural homogeneity and unity

Stateless Nation: a nation without a state

Multinational State: country with two or more nationalities within its borders

Multistate Nation: nation that transcends the borders of two or more states

Annexation: incorporation of a territory into another geo-political entity

Imperialism: European states sought colonies for resources for industrialization, outlets for overpopulation, and markets for their goods

Colonialism: attempt of a country to establish settlements and impose political and economic control

Decolonization: movement of colonies gaining independence; some were peaceful and some were violent

Domino Theory: the idea that if one land in a region came under the influence of Communist then more would follow

Core-Periphery: Core countries have high levels of development, a capacity at innovation and a convergence of trade flows. Periphery countries usually have less development and are poorer countries.

First World: the largely democratic and free-market states of the US and Western Europe

Second World: the communist and state-planned countries of Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, and China

Third World: the generally poorer countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America

Territorial Morphology: study of states' shapes and their effects

Compact: distance from geometric center is similar

Elongated: long and narrow state

Fragmented: two or more separate pieces

Perforated: territory completely surrounds that of another state

Protruded: have an area that extends from a more compact core

Bifurcated: has two distinct territories

Microstate: state or territory that is small in both population and area

Exclave: bounded territory that is part of a state but is separated by the territory of another state

Enclave: a small and relatively homogeneous group or region surrounded by a larger and different group

Boundary: vertical plane between states that cuts through rocks below and airspace above

Evolution

Definition: legal document or treaty drawn up to specify actual points in the landscape

Delimitation: cartographers put the boundary on the map

Demarcation: boundary is actually marked on the ground with wall, fence, ...

Types

Geometric: straight-line, unrelated to physical or cultural landscapes

Physical-Political: conform to physical features

Cultural-Political: mark breaks in the human landscape

Genesis

Antecedent: existed before the cultural landscape emerged

Subsequent: developed contemporaneously with the evolution of the cultural landscape

Superimposed: placed by powerful outsiders on a developed landscape

Relict: has ceased to function but imprint can still be detected on landscape

Disputes

Definitional: focus on legal language

Locational: definition is not in dispute, the interpretation is

Operational: neighbors differ over the way the boundary should function

Allocational: disputes over rights to natural resources

Buffer Zone: zone of separation, a territorial "cushion" that keeps rivals apart

Frontier: area where borders are shifting and weak, and where peoples of different cultures lay claim to the land

Shatterbelt: a region caught between stronger colliding external cultural-political forces, under persistent stress, and often fragmented by aggressive rivals

Geopolitics (Ratzel): states can be viewed as living organisms that need to consume other territories in order to survive

Heartland Theory (Mackinder): claimed whichever state controlled the resource-rich "heartland" of Eastern Europe could eventually dominate the world

Rimland Theory (Spykman): theory that the domination of the coastal fringes of Eurasia would provide the base for world conquest

Unitary State: a state governed constitutionally as a unit, without internal divisions or a federalist delegation of powers

Federal State: a state in which a group or body of members are bound together with a governing representative head. Federalism is the system in which the power to govern is shared between the national and state governments.

Confederation: association of sovereign states by a treaty or agreement

Below the State Boundary: internal divisions within a state

Above the State Boundary: refer to supranationalist agreements with two or more states working together

Electoral Regions: the different voting districts that make up local, state, and national regions

Gerrymandering: the process of redrawing legislative boundaries for the purpose of benefitting the political party in power

Supranationalism: a venture of three or more states involving formal economic, political, and/or cultural cooperation to promote shared objectives

United Nations: established to foster international security and cooperation

European Union: union of European states to cover most areas of public policy

NATO: military alliance of western democracies

NAFTA: trade bloc in North America created by US, Canada, and Mexico

Devolution: process whereby regions within a state demand and gain political strength and growing autonomy at the expense of the central government

Centripetal Forces: forces that unify a state

Centrifugal Forces: forces that divide a state