Geography 1000 – Peterson  Mid-term Exam

1. A variety of conditions at the local level lead to precipitation, either in the form of rain or snow. On a global level, precipitation is caused by: A) mountains; B) evapotranspiration; C) the coriolis effect; D) the equalization of the earth’s temperature; E) rotation of the earth.

2. Why might it critically important for the citizens of the US to know about the world? A) the 3rd largest country with only 4.45% of the world’s population, the US uses the most resources; B) the US has been a model for democracy; C) the US has the most powerful weapons; D) the US has one of the highest GNI PPP values; E) all of the above.

3. A major area of development within geography both in jobs and technology has been the integrative system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present all types of geographically referenced data: A) foreign service; B) mapping; C) GIS; D) military intelligence; E) GPS.

4. All of the following are true statements about longitude, EXCEPTION: A) has its origin at the prime meridian; B) could be determined by sailors using a device called a sextant to measure the angle between the horizon and a star; C) are relatively equal in length; D) extend east and west to 180 degrees longitude; E) could not be determined by sailors until the introduction of the chronometer.

5. Time zones are loosely based on lines of longitude. It is 1:00 PM on Friday at 90 degrees W. What time should it be at 150 degrees W? A) 5:00 PM Friday; B) 9:00 AM Friday; C) 9:00 AM Saturday; D) 5:00 AM Saturday; E) 1:00 PM Saturday.

6. The titled position of the earth is known as inclination of the earth’s axis. The earth’s rotation axis makes an angle of about 66.5 degrees with the plane of its orbit around the sun, or about 23.5 degrees from the perpendicular to the elliptical plane. On March 21 or 22 (depending on the year), the angle of the rays of the sun are perpendicular at: A) 23.5°N; B) 23.5°S; C) the equator; D) the Tropic of Cancer; E) at the Tropic of Capricorn.

7. The Köppen climate classification is the most widely used climate classification system. It was devised by German climatologist Wladimir Köppen. Later, German climatologist Rudolf Geiger collaborated with Köppen on changes to the classification system, which is thus sometimes referred to as the Köppen–Geiger climate classification system. In this system, the ‘C’ climates are: A) continental in location; B) have very hot summers; C) are maritime in location; D) are characterized by cold winters and mild to hot summers; E) none of the above.

8. The population age-sex structure of an area that depicts the relative amounts of people in both sexes in different age groups can be represented with: A) the ZPG; B) a population pyramid; C) the population potential; D) the population dynamic; E) none of the above.

9. The five largest countries in population in the world account for nearly half the world’s population, but only 21% of the world’s land surface. These countries include: A) China, India, United States, Russia, and Brazil; B) China, India, United States, Indonesia, and Brazil; C) China, India, Russia, Indonesia, and Brazil; D) China, India, United States, Russia, and Brazil; E) China, United States, India, Russia, and Brazil.

10. Many theories have been proposed how human population grows through time. One of these is the demographic transition. Which state in the demographic transition is characterized by high, unchanging birth rates combined with decreasing death rates: A) high stationary; B) early expanding; C) low stationary; D) late expanding; E) none of the above.

11. In 2000 the natural increase of the world was 1.6 and the total population was 6.067 billion. Using the population growth formula we used in class, what would have been the projected population for 2011? A) 6.92 billion; B) 7.23 billion; C) 7.45 billion; D) 7.79 billion; E) 7.89 billion.

12. Which of the following best describes the Malthusian Theory? A) Human population will eventually outgrow its food supply; B) Human population would be controlled by the planet’s ability to produce the food to feed it; C) Human population will never run out of food since an increase in population would result in an increase in food production; D) The population will be wiped out in 50 million years; E) all of the above.

13. Culture may be defined as a set of shared attitudes, values, goals, and practices that characterize an institution, organization, or a group of people. Although mostly composed of mental constructs, culture can exhibit itself as visible artifacts. All of the following would be examples of cultural artifacts, except: a) dating practices; b) a toilet; c) house; d) the layout of streets in a city; e) churches.
15. The GNI consists of the personal consumption expenditures, the gross private investment, the government consumption expenditures, the net income from assets abroad (net income receipts), and the gross exports of goods and services, GNI PPP expresses the GNI in Purchasing Power Parity – how much money would be needed to purchase the same goods and services in two different countries. The infant mortality rate is the number of deaths among infants in the first year of life. Which of the following countries has both the highest GNI PPP per capita and the highest rate of infant mortality? A) Canada; B) United States; C) Japan; D) Denmark; E) Sweden.

16. Out of 100 people in the world, how many would be from China, India, and the United States, respectively? A) 19.8, 16, 3.1; B) 16, 12, 4.5; C) 24, 15, 4.5; D) 21, 12, 4.2; E) 19.2, 17.7, 4.5.

17. Which are the top three countries with the highest remaining oil reserves? A) Venezuela, Russia, Canada; B) Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, Iraq; C) Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, United States; D) Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Libya; E) Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, Canada.

18. Which country has used most of its original supply of oil, having only 92 billion barrels left (an optimistic estimate) from an original endowment of 260 billion barrels? A) United States; B) Saudi Arabia; C) Russia; D) Iran; E) Iraq.

19. Crude oil, a fossil fuel, is formed when large quantities of dead organisms, usually zooplankton and algae, are buried underneath sedimentary rock and undergo intense heat and pressure. Why is oil found in places that used to be near the equator: A) lush tropical zones; B) abundant plant life; C) a large amount of sunshine; D) animal life; E) all of the above.

20. All of the following are major geographic qualities of Subsaharan Africa, except: A) the area has a plateau character, variable rainfall and soils of low fertility; B) the majority of the people remain dependent on farming; C) there is a high incidence of disease, including malaria, sleeping sickness and river blindness; D) the area has few raw materials that are vital to industrialized countries; E) the raw-material exploitation and export routes, set up during the colonial period, still prevail in most of Subsaharan Africa. Interregional connections are poor.

21. Colonial powers will often align themselves with a minority group in a country because A) the minority group will remain loyal; B) the minority group seeks power over the majority; C) the colonial power has limited military resources to maintain control in countries; D) the majority group would be in a better position to challenge colonial control; E) all of the above.

22. Instituting democracy in a former colonial country will inevitably A) shift control to the majority group; B) lead to stability; C) lead to a close alliance between the majority group and the occupying power; D) give greater rights to the minority group; E) bring democracy to neighboring countries.

23. Following the First Sudanese Civil War, the Southern Sudan Autonomous Region was formed in 1972 and lasted until 1983. A second Sudanese civil war soon started and ended with the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 2005. Later that year, southern autonomy was restored when an Autonomous Government of Southern Sudan was formed. South Sudan became an independent state on 9 July 2011. What is the largest city in this new country? A) Nairobi; B) Khartoum; C) Mogadishu; D) Juba; E) Kinshasa.

24. A major geologic feature in East Africa, the linear-shaped lowland between highlands or mountain ranges is created by a geologic fault. This action is manifest as crustal extension, a spreading apart of the surface which is subsequently further deepened by the forces of erosion. When the tensional forces are strong enough to cause the plate to split apart it will do so such that a center block will drop down relative to its flanking blocks. This creates the nearly parallel steeply dipping walls. As this process continues, the valley gets wider and wider until it becomes a large basin that fills water from the surrounding area. This feature is called: A) hanging valley; B) plate collapse; C) elongated valley; D) break valleys; E) rift valley.

25. The Rwandan Genocide resulted in the death of an estimated 800,000 people in the small East African nation of Rwanda by the Hutu majority. Over the course of approximately 100 days over 500,000 Tutsi were killed. The origins of the conflict can be traced to the colonial powers and: A) their alliance with the Tutsi minority population in the colonial administration; B) the extraction of resources that benefitted the Tutsi; C) arming of the Hutu; D) inability to establish a democracy; E) arming of the Tutsi.

26. This country was colonized by freed American slaves with the help of the American Colonization Society, a private organization that believed ex-slaves would have greater freedom and equality in Africa. Slaves freed from slave ships were also sent there instead of
being repatriated to their countries of origin. A) Nigeria; B) Liberia; C) Senegal; D) Gambia; E) Benin.

27. The climate of Burundi and surrounding countries in East Africa is: A) extremely hot because of its location on the equator; B) is characterized by massive amounts of rainfall, far greater than in countries in Equatorial Africa; C) a combination of hot and humid conditions makes the country almost unbearable; D) is moderated by its higher elevation; E) is dry because of the Hadley-Ferrel effect.

28. Acquired immune deficiency syndrome or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) is a disease of the human immune system caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). HIV/AIDS is a major public health concern and cause of death in Africa. Although Africa only has about 14.5% of the world's population, it is estimated to be home to 69% of all people living with HIV and up to 72% of all AIDS deaths. Which area of Africa has the most serious problem with HIV/AIDS? A) Southern Africa; B) West Africa; C) East Africa; D) Equatorial Africa; E) North Africa.

29. One of the earliest countries to achieve independence from France in West Africa, this country is a major exporter of both coffee and cocoa. The country was an economic powerhouse during the 1960s and 1970s in West Africa. However, the country went through an economic crisis in the 1980s, leading to the country's period of political and social turmoil. Many children, some from neighboring countries, now work the cocoa plantations. A) Senegal; B) Liberia; C) Ghana; D) Côte d'Ivoire; E) Nigeria.

30. Gôrée Island off the coast of Senegal is: A) a major tourist resort, with beaches that attract large numbers of Europeans; B) an important oil depot for oil coming from Nigeria; C) a central part of the port of Dakar for the transhipment of goods and materials throughout West Africa; D) an important historical landmark in the slave trade, although few slaves were likely taken to the island; E) an area of intense agriculture, growing food for nearby Dakar.

31. Which of the following statements about Southern Africa is true? A) Most countries have a tropical climate due to the close proximity with the equator. B) Most countries still remain colonies. C) The area is sparsely populated. D) The countries on the western side receive much more precipitation than the countries on the east. E) Because of a common past and culture, most residents share a single, common language.

32. Which of the following Southern African countries has considerable copper mining activities and has created a cooperative mining venture with China? The population is concentrated mainly around the capital of Lusaka in the south and the Copperbelt Province to the northwest. A) Angola; B) Zimbabwe; C) Zambia; D) Mozambique; E) Congo.

33. Which Southern African country, once a colony of Portugal, has considerable oil production from an exclave called Cabinda and invited Cuban troops to support its Marxist government during the 1980's? A) Zambia; B) Malawi; C) Angola; D) Mozambique; E) Zimbabwe.

34. Officially the Republic of Rhodesia from 1970, this country was an unrecognised state located in southern Africa that existed between 1965 and 1979 following its unilateral Declaration of Independence from the United Kingdom and was ruled by a white minority government from its independence until Black African rule was achieved in 1980. President Robert Mugabe has been in power since the country's internationally recognized independence in 1980. A) Malawi; B) Zimbabwe; C) Zambia; D) Namibia; E) Mozambique.

35. Which of the following statements about Southern Africa is true? A) Most countries are still colonies of Europe; B) The region has a tropical climate due to the close proximity to the equator; C) Because of a common past and culture, most residents share a single, common language; D) The western part of the region receives more precipitation that the eastern part; E) The area is sparsely populated relative to nearby regions.

36. It is likely that all colonial powers committed genocide during their reign of power in Africa, including the British, French, Belgians, Portuguese, and the Germans. Only the Germans have been identified because: A) their acts were the most egregious; B) they killed the largest number of Africans; C) they lost their colonial possessions relatively early and committed genocide in Europe during WW II; D) they had the largest colonial possessions in Africa, extending from Northern to Southern Africa; E) they treated the Africans most like children.

37. The richest of all African countries is well-endowed with a variety of resources, except oil. European settlers first arrived here in 1652 and accounted for as much as 17.5% of the population: A) South Africa; B) Zimbabwe; C) Angola; D) Mozambique; E) Nambia
38. During the First Gulf War, the death toll for the US was 114 by enemy fire, 145 in accidents, and 35 to friendly fire. The death toll for the Iraqi military and civilians was estimated to be: A) 2000/10,000; B) 40,000/20,000; C) 3,500/40,000; D) 4,000/90,000; E) 35,000/100,000.

39. Algeria stands out from the other countries in the North Africa/SW Asia because: A) there is considerably more rainfall, especially in the south; B) it had longstanding colonial relationship with France that ended in a major civil war; C) it has very little oil; D) there is a significant non-Islamic population, mostly in the south; E) the population is evenly distributed.

40. Israel is unique in this region for all of the following reasons, EXCEPT: A) high level of industrialization; B) Jewish religion; C) greater wealth; D) large immigrant population; E) greater rainfall, especially in the Negev.

41. Which of the following is NOT true about the Kurdish population: A) the group is concentrated in the border regions of Turkey, Iraq, and Iran; B) many Kurds seek the formation of an independent Kurdistan; C) the Kurds were persecuted by Saddam Hussein and protected by a no-fly zone enforced by the United States; D) Turkey has been fighting a Kurdish insurgency; E) the Kurds have no oil.

42. Kuwait's population is estimated to be 3 to 3.5 million people, including approximately 2 million non-nationals. To maintain the status quo of Kuwaiti control, the government rarely grants citizenship to foreigners. After Kuwait was liberated from the Iraqi invasion and occupation by coalition forces led by the United States, most of the 400,000 Palestinians living in Kuwait were expelled because of Palestinian support for Iraq. Today, most of the foreign national living in Kuwait come from: A) Syria; B) Egypt; C) India; D) Saudi Arabia; E) East Asia.

43. Jubail and Dhahran are two burgeoning urban centers located: A) in the southern part of Iraq on the Persian Gulf; B) in the part of Iraq that borders on the Persian Gulf; C) in the United Arab Emirates; D) within the Saudi Arabian oil-boom area that borders the Persian Gulf; E) in Jordan.

44. As the birthplace of Muhammad and a site of the composition of the Quran, Mecca is regarded as the holiest city in the religion of Islam and a pilgrimage to it, known as the Hajj, is obligatory upon all able Muslims. The region was long ruled by Muhammad's descendants, the sharifs, either as independent rulers or as vassals to larger empires. It was absorbed into this country in 1925. A) Saudi Arabia; B) Jordan; C) Egypt; D) Israel; E) Syria.

45. The countries with the largest population in the North Africa / Southwest Asia region were once empires that controlled much larger areas. The three most populated countries in the North Africa / Southwest Asia region are: A) Israel, Jordan, and Lebanon; B) Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Iran; C) Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen; D) Egypt, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan; E) Egypt, Iran, and Turkey.

46. All of the following are true about the North Africa / SW Asia region EXCEPT: A) there is little precipitation; B) most of the countries are Islamic; C) industry is not well-developed; D) most are dependent on imports of food; E) the people all benefit from the oil-wealth.

47. This country is a parliamentary republic in the Middle East, along the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea. It borders Lebanon in the north, Syria in the northeast, Jordan in the east, and Egypt and the Gaza Strip on the southwest, and it contains geographically diverse features within its relatively small area. It is one of the richest in the North African / SW Asian region. However, it has no oil or coal and few resources. A) Tunisia; B) Turkey; C) Israel; D) Syria; E) Libya.

48. Syria has been ruled for many years by a family that comes from the minority Alawite sect, an offshoot of Shiite Islam that comprises an estimated 6–12 percent of the Syrian population. It has maintained tight control on Syria's security services, generating resentment among the Sunni Muslim Islamists that make up about three quarters of Syria's population. Minority Kurds have also protested and complained. According to The New York Times, the Syrian government has relied "almost exclusively" on Alawite-dominated units of the security services to fight the uprising. What is the name of this ruling family: A) Alawite; B) Assad; C) Sadat; D) Begin; E) Suleiman.

49. In a Zulu village, Yesterday is a cheerful mother with an inquisitive five-year-old child, Beauty. The first half of the movie concentrates on the problem of: A) rural health care; B) lack of water; C) insufficient food; D) racial conflicts; E) lack of teachers.

50. In the movie Yesterday from South Africa, the second half of the movie concentrates on the problem of: A) lack of water; B) insufficient food; C) racial conflicts; D) misconceptions about AIDS; E) the problem with mines.