Eastern Hemisphere
Unit 1: An Introduction to Social Studies
Take Home Test

Purpose: The purpose of this take home test is to help you prepare for the upcoming test on Unit 1: An Introduction to Social Studies. You may use all of the assignments you have completed in class and may use your Unit 1 Study Guide to answer its questions. The questions for the test will be pulled from this take home test.

Part I: Short Answer

Directions: Please read each of the following questions. On a separate sheet of paper, respond to each in a complete sentence which restates the question. You will note that there is a serial number behind each of the questions (e.g., “1A1”). It refers to the assignment that you completed in class.

1. What is social studies, and what four disciplines are included in its study? (1A1)
2. What is history, and why is it important to study it? (1A1)
3. What is geography, and why is it important to study it? (1A1)
4. What is economics, and why is it important to study it? (1A1)
5. What is civics, and why is it important to study it? (1A1)
6. If you put something in chronological order, what does it mean? (1B1)
7. How many years are there in a millennium? (1B1)
8. How many years are there in a century? (1B1)
9. How many years are there in a decade? (1B1)
10. William the Conqueror invaded England in AD 1066. What does the AD stand for in Latin and what is its English translation? (1B1)
11. It is currently the year AD 2012; it has been 2012 years since the birth of an important person in history. Who was that person? (1B1)
12. Julius Caesar was murdered in 44 BC. What does the BC stand? (1B1)
13. Napoleon Bonaparte died in 1820 CE. What does the CE stand for? (1B1)
14. Mount Vesuvius destroyed the city of Pompeii in 79 CE. Could you also say that Pompeii was destroyed in AD 79? Why or why not? (1B1)
15. The First Americans arrived in North America around 30,000 BP. What does the BP stand for? (1B1)
16. Moses led the Hebrews out of Egypt c. 1250 BC. What does the “c.” stand for and what is its English translation? (1B1)
17. George Washington died in the 18th century AD. What years did this century include? (1B1)
18. Correctly identify the centuries that the following dates happened: 1927, 1619, 1888, and 1215. What do they all have in common when you identify the century in which they happened? (1B3)
19. What calendar do we use in the West, and by what other names is it known? (1B3)
20. According to the Gregorian or Christian calendar, in what year was Jesus Christ born? (1B3)
21. Which came first, 1000 BC or 2000 BC? Explain why. (1B3)
22. What calendar do most nations use for their day-to-day business? (1B3)
23. What are solar, lunar, and lunisolar calendars? (1B3)
24. What is the tropical year? (1B3)
25. Is the Julian calendar used anymore? Explain. (1B3)
26. What event marks the first year of the Jewish calendar? (1B3)
27. What event marks the first year of the Islamic calendar? (1B3)
28. What event marks the first year of the Indian calendar? (1B3)
29. What event marks the first year of the Gregorian calendar? (1B3)
30. What does simultaneous mean? (1B4)
31. What is a timeline? (1B4)
32. What is a tiered timeline? (1B4)
33. Name the Five Themes of Geography. (1C1)
34. What do we study when we study movement? Please give an example of this. (1C1)
35. What do we study when we study region? Please give an example of this. (1C1)
36. What do we study when we study location? Please give an example of this. (1C1)
37. What do we study when we study human-environment interaction? Please give an example of this. (1C1)
38. What do we study when we study place? Please give an example of this. (1C1)
39. What is “absolute location”? (1C1)
40. What is “relative location”? (1C1)
41. Please know where all of the continents and oceans of the world are. (1C2)
42. Please know where all of the regions of the Eastern Hemisphere are. (1C3)

Part II: Constructing a Timeline from Written Sources

Directions: Read the following article on the beginning of World War II. When you are done, create a timeline on a separate sheet of paper. You should find ten events to use on your timeline. Help for this exercise can come from assignment 1B4.

Blitzkrieg in Poland

On September 1, 1939, Nazi Germany started the Second World War when it unleashed blitzkrieg (lightning war) on its neighbor, Poland. In the early morning hours, German dive bombers struck first in the early morning hours, pounding airfields, barracks, railroads, and bridges. The Germans then quickly tore holes in the Polish front lines with their mechanized units. Their panzers (tanks) charged through these gaps and raced deep into the Polish rear, sowing terror and confusion.

The following day, Britain and France demanded that the Germans to pull their troops out of Poland. If they did not, the Allies threatened a state of war would exist between the Germany and Britain. Adolf Hitler, the leader of Nazi Germany, ignored the warnings. The Wehrmacht (German Army) continued to run roughshod over the Polish Army, defeating it at every turn. When the deadline came and went on September 3, 1939, Britain, France, Australia, and New Zealand declared war on Germany.

The British Royal Air Force struck its first blow on September 4, 1939 when it launched bombing raids on German naval bases at Schillig Roads and Wilhelmshaven. These raids did little damage. Poor weather made the bombing inaccurate. Deadly rings of antiaircraft guns circling the bases shot down seven of the British bombers. These raids did little to halt Germany’s invasion of Poland.

By September 14, 1939, German infantry and panzers had surrounded the capital city of Warsaw. The Germans demanded that the city surrender. But instead of giving up, the people of Warsaw began to barricade their city. Men, women, and children dug trenches in the city’s parks. Streetcars were thrown across city streets to keep the Germans out. It seemed to the Germans as though every house had been turned into a bunker.

On September 17, 1939, the leader of the Soviet Union, Joseph Stalin, sent his troops into Poland to take roughly half of the hapless country. This action was part of a secret pact made between Hitler and Stalin in the months before the invasion. The Polish Army offered little resistance to the Russian attack. In response, the Polish government gave up and fled the country to the safety of Romania.

Still, the city of Warsaw refused to surrender to the Germans. This angered the German generals. On September 25, 1939, the Luftwaffe (German Air Force) sent its bombers over the city to pound it into submission. They dropped a combination of firebombs and high explosive bombs on the city, reducing it to rubble. Seeing that France and Britain would not come to Poland’s aid, Warsaw surrendered on September 27, 1939.

Isolated pockets of Polish soldiers continued to fight on, especially on the Hel Peninsula and around the city of Kock. The Germans pounded them unmercifully with artillery and dive bombers. On October 1, 1939 Polish troops on the Hel Peninsula surrendered. Five days later, the last Polish unit of 17,000 men surrendered at Kock. Blitzkrieg had proven its battle worthiness to the armies of the world.