

Unit 4 Study Guide: Political Geography

1. Identify and Explain the Concepts of a State. Origin and diffusion of the Modern State.
2. Examples of Nation, State, Stateless Nation, Nation-State, Multi-Nation State, Multi-Ethnic State, Multi-State Nation.
3. Explain the struggle for the formation of the modern state. Identify key areas of conflict for State sovereignty and the forces that attribute to this phenomenon.
4. Explain the factors that have led to the formation of new states post 1950. (Specifically in Europe and Africa).
5. State Shapes (Examples for each). Advantages and Disadvantages. Also know the following terms; landlocked state, enclave, and exclave.
6. Borders/Boundaries. Factors that lead to the Formation of Borders.
7. Types of boundaries: physical, geometric, superimposed, relic, etc. Example for each types of boundary.
8. Different types of boundary disputes. Example for each.
9. Frontiers and Buffer Zones. Examples and description of why they are created/determined.
10. Organization of Governments Federal/Unitary. Example.
11. Examples of Centripetal and Centrifugal forces. Explain how these factors lead to stability and instability in States.
12. The struggle of self-determination and Stateless nations. Give examples and explain areas that have been successful and areas that have not.
13. Define Supranationalism. Examples of Supranationalistic Organizations. Explain the increase in supranationalism's affect on State Sovereignty. What country has been trying to get into the EU but has been left out due to location and culture not being "European enough?"
14. Define Devolution. Examples of the types of Devolution. Explain how Devolution affects the State. Explain what factors lead to devolution in most states, give examples.
15. Define Balkanization. Give examples of areas affected by Balkanization. Explain the effects of Balkanization on groups within a state. Explain what effect Balkanization has played on the formation of States in the 20th Century.
16. Understand the different Geopolitical theories discussed in class. Give an example of where they were used to dictate a state's Foreign Policy.
17. Define Gerrymandering. Explain how this affects party politics. Define Minority-Majority.
18. Explain the World Systems Theory. Where is most of the Core located? Provide examples of countries in each of the core, periphery, and semi-periphery.

*Remember to review all handouts and assignments from the class. You will need to know specifics from each of those assignments.

**Reminder to review all previous concepts/terms. The exam will include all of the following and also include key discussions and concepts from the text and Wikispaces.

***You will also need to review concepts from previous Units.