

Unit 3

Culture

Cultural Geography

The following information corresponds to Chapter 29 in your textbook. Fill in the blanks to complete the definition or sentence. Note: All of the following information in addition to your reading is important, not just the blanks you fill in.

Folk vs. Popular Culture

- _____ cultures – largely self-sufficient, somewhat isolated groups with long-standing traditions that change comparatively slowly through time; generally have anonymous locations; their practices are so deeply embedded in the culture that it is hard to know when and where things developed.
- _____ culture – the rapidly changeable, nontraditional heterogeneous ideas and practices of urban industrial societies; generally well documented because it is so new; its origins are often in _____ countries such as Japan and those of North America and Western Europe. The _____ have been the primary focus and carriers over the past fifty plus years.
- The usual examples of popular culture refer to clothing, music, and foods. Much, if not all, of popular culture refers to _____ time and the growing affluence of the world's population.
- * These terms are somewhat problematic because they ignore the issue of _____ culture (or the culture of the masses) and what is sometimes called high or _____ culture. Popular culture is sometimes thought to be a protest against the mass culture which is produced by the elite for the middle-class.
- The boundaries between folk and popular music are vague. In the United States, country music – which is said to have originated in the _____ Uplands and the _____ Mountains in middle Tennessee and Kentucky lowlands – is an example of how folk music was commercialized, standardized, and made into popular music (written by specific individuals for the purpose of being sold to a large number of people). Popular music is relatively new (since approximately 1900 in Europe and North America) and its continuing evolution reflects the influences of various populations.

Globalization

- Through European _____, an increasingly integrated world political order was developed.
- This together with a series of technological innovations radically altered the cost, pace, and scope of interaction. Give at least three examples:
- These developments have fostered a fundamental shift in the very notion of a _____ community. A hundred years ago, cultural communities were thought of as contiguous communities of people sharing cultural characteristics (language, religion,...). The extraordinary technological and social changes of recent decades have both _____ awareness of different dimensions of culture and made it possible for close contacts to emerge among peoples living in far away places, reducing _____.
- _____ - occurs when a good or idea that previously was not regarded as an object to be bought and sold is turned into something that has a particular price and that can be traded in a market economy.
- Carried by television and other forms of media, _____ culture has penetrated formerly isolated locations in the world. In the United States and western Europe, the many critics of the diffusion of popular culture decry the homogenization and power of the culture that they are a part of. They complain about the uniform landscapes created. They heartily dislike the fast-food culture that characterizes popular culture. Give one example:
- _____ - _____ continuum – the notion that what happens at the global scale has a direct effect on the local scale and vice versa; related to the interconnectivity of the world.
- The scope and scale of _____ (product of cultural mixing) has greatly expanded in recent decades. The result is a kind of _____ in which elements from different cultures are combined in new ways.