
AP[®] Human Geography

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary Set 2

Inside:

Free-Response Question 1

- ☒ **Scoring Guidelines**
- ☒ **Student Samples**
- ☒ **Scoring Commentary**

Question 1: No Stimulus**7 points**

(A) Describe ONE type of diffusion by which culture traits spread.**1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- A1. Expansion diffusion, as ideas or practices spread through a population into different areas.
- A2. Relocation diffusion, as ideas or practices spread from one location to a new or distant location, or to a location across a geographic barrier.
- A3. Hierarchical diffusion, as ideas or practices spread from one important or significant city, community, and/or person to another.
- A4. Contagious diffusion, as ideas or practices spread from person to person or along a transportation line.
- A5. Stimulus diffusion, as ideas or practices are borrowed from one culture and altered by another culture.

(B) Describe the process of creolization of language.**1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- B1. Interactions between or among culture traits and/or larger global forces lead to new forms of cultural expression and/or new languages.
 - B2. Two or more languages converge or mix to create a new language or new form of communication.
 - B3. People speaking two or more languages experience syncretism and/or combine their languages to form a new language.
 - B4. The development of a new language or dialect occurs due to the contact between groups that speak different and/or mutually unintelligible languages.
 - B5. The blending of two or more languages in which the new language includes selected features of either original language.
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| (C) | Describe how the globalization of foods has influenced cultural patterns of food consumption. | 1 point |
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Accept one of the following:

- C1. Globalization has resulted in the global spread of various plants and/or animals.
- C2. Globalization has resulted in the spread of ingredients, cuisines, foods, and/or food cultures to people around the world.
- C3. Globalization has resulted in policies (e.g., safety regulations, labeling requirements) that may affect consumer preferences (e.g., organic, Kosher, Halal).
- C4. Globalization has popularized foods from different regions (e.g., sushi, tacos, kebabs).
- C5. Globalization alters the quantity, type, and/or cost of foods.
- C6. Globalization has expanded food options, changed diets, and/or changed levels of nutrition.
- C7. Globalization has reduced the consumption of local foods as people opt for globally distributed foods (e.g., fast food, processed, frozen).
- C8. Globalization provides access to crops that were formerly only available in certain climates and/or year-long access to foods that were formerly only seasonally available.

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| (D) | Explain ONE way that agricultural land use practices may have negative environmental effects. | 1 point |
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Accept one of the following:

- D1. Agricultural practices may result in increased pollution (e.g., soil, air, water) through chemical inputs (e.g., fertilizers, pesticides), resource use, and/or mechanized farming.
 - D2. Agricultural practices may contribute to water runoff that can pollute or degrade the quality of local or downstream water supplies (e.g., streams, rivers, lakes, oceans, groundwater, aquifers, wetlands).
 - D3. Agricultural pollution may contribute to global environmental problems (e.g., the greenhouse effect, climate change, ozone layer damage).
 - D4. Agricultural practices (e.g., plowing, terracing, deforestation, draining wetlands, grazing animals) may degrade and/or eliminate plant or animal habitats, change ecosystems, and/or reduce biodiversity.
 - D5. Agricultural practices (e.g., irrigation, dryland farming) may contribute to soil salinization, desertification, and/or soil erosion.
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| (E) | Explain how a new style of music may be created as a result of cultural diffusion from different regions. | 1 point |
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Accept one of the following:

- E1. A new style of music may be created through a process of cultural interaction (e.g., syncretism, creolization, communication technologies).
- E2. When two or more musical styles come into contact, their elements may be combined to create a new musical style, tradition, instrument, dance, and/or genre.

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| (F) | Explain how toponyms may result from the diffusion of religion across the cultural landscape. | 1 point |
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Accept one of the following:

- F1. The diffusion of religion may result in places (e.g., neighborhoods, cities, sub-national units, regions, countries) or natural features (e.g., rivers, mountains) being named after important religious figures, sacred sites, places of worship, events (e.g., holidays), and/or symbols.
 - F2. The process of colonization and/or sequent occupance leaves evidence of past religions through placenames or the names of natural features.
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| (G) | Explain the degree to which the use of indigenous languages has been influenced by colonialism. (Response must indicate the degree [low, moderate, high] and provide an explanation.) | 1 point |
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Statement of a moderate or high degree

AND

Supported by one of the following:

- G1. Colonizers reduced or restricted indigenous language use by imposing their own languages to govern (e.g., by law), assimilate (e.g., religion), and/or communicate (e.g., as a lingua franca, taught in schools).
- G2. Colonization reduced the number of indigenous language speakers through disease and/or conflict.
- G3. Colonialism reduced or replaced indigenous languages with colonizers' languages in toponyms, maps, charts, and/or in other representations.
- G4. In some areas, colonialism encouraged indigenous language use (e.g., Nahuatl in Central America) through the employment of indigenous people (e.g., for administrative or religious purposes).

OR

Statement of a moderate or low degree

AND

Supported by one of the following:

- G5. In some areas (e.g., parts of Africa, parts of Oceania), indigenous languages remain widely used because of local resistance or indifference to colonial cultural influences and/or flourishing cultural centers.
- G6. In some areas (e.g., Paraguay, Oaxaca, Guatemala), colonizers' languages were not widely adopted, leaving indigenous languages largely unaffected.

Total for question 1: 7 points

Important: Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the question you are answering on this page.

Question 1

Question 2

Question 3

Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

- A) One type of diffusion by which culture traits spread is by relocation diffusion. Relocation diffusion is the spread of cultural traits through the movement of people. As different cultural groups interact, they exchange culture traits, as a result of movement.
- B) Creolization of a language is when 2 or more languages are combined to form a new language. This ~~is~~ often occurs due to colonialism. An example of this is Haitian creole, which is a mix of Haitian and French. The effects of colonialism are apparent here, as the French state previously colonized Haiti, causing people in Haiti to learn French, by schooling and interacting with the French people.
- C) The globalization of foods has allowed cultures from all over the globe to incorporate certain crops and ingredients in their dishes (through trading with other countries). Cultures then are able to cook and sell their cultural dishes at the country they've immigrated to, allowing people to try new foods, which lead to more restaurants with different cuisines opening up.
- D) New agricultural land practices challenge the environment. One example is irrigation, which allows crops in arid or semi-arid regions to be watered. However, irrigation can also lead to water pollution and a decreased amount of freshwater ~~with~~ⁱⁿ downstream areas. Irrigation also puts a strain on the Earth's water sources, decreasing Earth's carrying capacity and increasing the ecological

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Question 1

Question 2

Question 3



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footprint.

E) A new style of music may be created as a result of cultural diffusion. For example, through relocation diffusion when people migrate, they often take their cultural traits with them, such as cuisine, language, music, etc. This can lead to acculturation between the immigrated groups. A new style of music may also emerge from stimulus diffusion, in which the receiving group changes the trait received. Acculturation can lead to a new style of music, as well as stimulus diffusion, and combining 2 or more styles of music from various cultural groups can also contribute to the making of a new style of music.

F)

G) To a high degree, indigenous languages have been influenced by colonialism. This is often due to the colonizing power requiring the colonized group to adopt all of the practices of the dominant group (assimilation). This can lead to loss of indigenous languages, or creolization of the language of the colonizing power and the colonized.

Page 3

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Important: Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the question you are answering on this page.

Question 1

Question 2

Question 3

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Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

A) One type of diffusion by which culture traits spread is relocation diffusion, which can be commonly seen when trading occurs.

B) The process of creolization of language happens when two different languages come together to form a new language.

C) The globalization of foods has influenced cultural patterns of food consumption because ~~the~~ some regions have their own cultural foods, and by ~~them~~ relocating the food to another region, it can create more awareness about it and more people may eat that certain food.

D) Agricultural land use practices can have negative environmental effects because shifting cultivation results in lots of smoke and CO₂ being emitted into the air, which can cause a rise in temperature due to those greenhouse gases and impact other environmental factors.

E) A new style of music may be created as a result of cultural diffusion from different regions because of different regions being nearby to each other and being able to hear both styles, it can lead to a blending of those music styles.

F) Toponyms may result from the diffusion of religion across the cultural landscape because ~~there~~ might be two main religion nearby each other and they may be accepting of each other. This will result in two different toponyms that relate to both of the religions in order

Page 2

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Question 1

Question 2

Question 3



Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

to be more diverse.

G.) The degree to which the use of indigenous languages has been influenced by colonialism is high. Indigenous languages aren't as recognized and have been decreasing due to colonialism and forcing the indigenous people to speak their language, which eventually leads to fewer people speaking indigenous languages.

Page 3

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Question 1

Question 2

Question 3

Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

A. One type of diffusion by which culture traits spread is Relocation diffusion, when people migrate or emigrate they could bring in their new/old culture spreading it to others.

B. Creolization is when you learn new culture from the spread of it. In this case Creolization of a language is when you learn that from other people or the spread of some.

C. The globalization of food has influenced cultural patterns by Contagious diffusion or hitchhiker diffusion it could have been heard about so it spread from place to place & became known.

D. One way agricultural land use may have negative effects because it could be harming the environment.

E. It could have been spread there or have been introduced to them.

F. It may result because emigrant ~~the~~ may have shown them and it became part of their ~~culture~~ culture.

G. They have been influenced because of Contagious diffusion.

Question 1

Note: Student samples are quoted verbatim and may contain spelling and grammatical errors.

Overview

This zero-stimulus question focused on the cultural geography concept of diffusion, with an emphasis on how cultural ideas, practices, and innovations change or disappear over time. Students were expected to draw from two main units for this question including Unit 3 (Cultural Patterns and Processes) and Unit 5 (Agricultural and Rural Land-Use Patterns and Processes). The main skills for this question are found in Skill Category 1 (Concepts and Processes) and Skill Category 2 (Spatial Relationships). An additional skill for this question is found in Skill Category 5 (Scale Analysis).

In part A students were asked to describe one type of diffusion by which culture traits spread.

In part B students were asked to articulate the impact of cultural diffusion on languages by describing the process of creolization of language.

In part C students were asked to make connections between cultural diffusion and globalization by describing how the globalization of foods has influenced cultural patterns of food consumption.

Following from the discussion of food in part C, students in part D were asked to explain one way that agricultural land use practices may have negative environmental effects.

In part E students were asked to explain how a new style of music may be created as a result of cultural diffusion from different regions.

In part F students were asked to explain how toponyms may result from the diffusion of religion across the cultural landscape.

In part G students were asked to explain the degree to which the use of indigenous languages has been influenced by colonialism.

Sample: A

Score: 6

The response to part A earned 1 point because it correctly describes one type of diffusion by which culture traits spread. The response correctly describes relocation diffusion as “the spread of cultural traits through the movement of people.” This response corresponds with relocation diffusion as ideas or practices spread from one location to a new location, as stated in A2.

The response to part B earned 1 point because it correctly describes the process of creolization of a language. The response correctly describes the process as when “2 or more languages are combined to form a new language.” This response corresponds with two or more languages converging to create a new language, as stated in B2.

Question 1 (continued)

The response to part C earned 1 point because it correctly describes how globalization of foods has influenced cultural patterns of food consumption. The response correctly describes that when people “are able to cook and sell their cultural dishes at the country they’ve immigrated to, allowing people to try new foods, which lead to more restaurants with different cuisines opening up.” This response corresponds with globalization resulting in the spread of cuisines, as stated in C2.

The response to part D earned 1 point because it correctly explains one way that agricultural land use practices may have negative environmental effects. The response correctly explains that “irrigation can ... lead to water pollution and a decreased amount of freshwater in downstream areas.” This response corresponds with agricultural land use practices having negative environmental effects that contribute to water runoff that can pollute or degrade downstream water supplies, as stated in D2.

The response to part E earned 1 point because it correctly explains how a new style of music may be created as a result of cultural diffusion from different regions. The response correctly explains that a new style of music can be created as a result of cultural diffusion whereby “2 or more styles of music from various cultural groups ... contribute to the making of a new style of music.” This response corresponds with when two or more styles of music come into contact, their elements may combine to create a new style of music, as stated in E2.

There is no response for part F.

The response to part G earned 1 point because it correctly explains the degree to which the use of indigenous languages has been influenced by colonialism. The response indicates a “high degree” and correctly explains that indigenous languages were influenced “due to the colonizing power requiring the colonized group to adopt all of the practices of the dominant group (assimilation).” This response corresponds with colonizers reducing or restricting indigenous language use by imposing their own languages to assimilate, as stated in G1.

Sample: B

Score: 5

The response to part A did not earn a point because it insufficiently describes relocation diffusion as “commonly seen when trading occurs.” The response would have earned a point if it had defined relocation diffusion as ideas or practices spreading from one location to a new location or across a geographic barrier, as stated in A2.

The response to part B earned 1 point because it correctly describes creolization as “when two different languages come together to form a new language.” This response corresponds with the idea that creolization occurs when two or more languages converge to create a new language, as stated in B2.

Question 1 (continued)

The response to part C earned 1 point because it correctly describes how the globalization of foods has influenced cultural patterns of food consumption. The response correctly explains that “relocating the food to another region, it can create more awareness about it and more people may eat that certain food.” This response corresponds with globalization resulting in the spread of foods to people around the world, as stated in C2.

The response to part D earned 1 point because it correctly explains that “shifting cultivation results in lots of smoke and CO₂ being emitted into the air, which can cause a rise in temperature due to those greenhouse gases.” This response corresponds with agricultural pollution contributing to global environmental problems, as stated in D3.

The response to part E earned 1 point because it correctly explains that a new style of music can be created by “different regions being nearby to each other and being able to hear both styles, it can lead to a blending of those music styles.” This response corresponds with a new style of music being created through a process of cultural interaction, as stated in E1.

The response to part F did not earn a point because it incorrectly explains how toponyms may result from the diffusion of religion across the cultural landscape. The response incorrectly explains that “there might be two main religion nearby each other and they may be accepting of each other. This will result in two different toponyms that relate to both of the religions.” The response would have earned a point if it had explained that the diffusion of religion may result in places or natural features being named after important religious figures, sacred sites, places of worship, events, and/or symbols, as stated in F1.

The response to part G earned 1 point because it correctly indicates the degree to which indigenous languages have been influenced by colonialism. The response states a degree and then explains that “indigenous languages aren’t as recognized and have been decreasing due to colonialism and forcing the indigenous people to speak their language, which eventually leads to fewer people speaking indigenous languages.” This response corresponds with colonizers reducing indigenous language use by imposing their own languages, as stated in G1.

Sample: C**Score: 2**

The response to part A earned 1 point because it correctly describes relocation diffusion as “when people migrate or emigrate they could bring in there new/old culture spreading it to others.” This response corresponds with relocation diffusion spreading ideas or practices from one location to a new location, as stated in A2.

The response to part B did not earn a point because it incorrectly describes the process of creolization as “when you learn new culture ... from other people or the spread of something.” The response would have earned a point if it had described two or more languages converging or mixing to create a new language or new form of communication, as stated in B2.

Question 1 (continued)

The response to part C earned 1 point because it correctly describes how the globalization of foods has influenced cultural patterns of food consumption. The response explains that through globalization, a food “could have been heard about so it spread from place to place & become known.” The response corresponds with globalization resulting in the spread of foods to people around the world, as stated in C2.

The response to part D did not earn a point because it incompletely states that agricultural land use may have negative effects because it “could be harming the environment.” The response does not fully explain how agricultural land use may harm the environment. The response would have earned a point if it had explained one way that agricultural land practices may have negative environmental effects, such as pollution of soil, air, or water through chemical inputs, resource use, and/or mechanized farming, as stated in D1.

The response to part E did not earn a point because it incorrectly explains how a new style of music may be created as a result of cultural diffusion from different regions. The response incompletely states that “it could have been spread there or have been introduced to them,” but does not explain how a new style of music would be created as a result of cultural diffusion. The response would have earned a point if it had explained that a new style of music may be created through a process of cultural interaction, as stated in E1.

The response to part F did not earn a point because it incorrectly explains how toponyms may result from the diffusion of religion across the cultural landscape. The response incorrectly explains that “it may result because emigrant may have shown them and it became part of their culture.” The response would have earned the point if it had explained that the diffusion of religion may result in places or natural features being named after important religious figures, sacred sites, places of worship, events, and/or symbols, as stated in F1.

The response to part G did not earn a point because it incorrectly explains the degree to which the use of indigenous languages has been influenced by colonialism. The response does not indicate a degree (low, medium, high) to which the use of indigenous languages has been influenced by colonialism, and the response incorrectly explains that “they have been influenced because of contagious diffusion.” The response would have earned a point if it had indicated a degree and explained that colonizers reduced or restricted indigenous language use by imposing their own languages to govern, assimilate, and/or communicate, as stated in G1.