

1: Southeast Asia - Wikipedia

East Asia's Languages largest language family Sino-Tibetan, includes Chinese and Tibetan and spoken by over billion Japanese, Khalkha Mongolian, and Uygur.

Excerpt from Term Paper: In recent years, the importance of South East Asia has been increasing steadily. Thanks in large part to the rapid economic advancement of the region, which began with Japan, moved to Korea and Taiwan, and is currently being seen in China, this is an area which Western countries are showing an increasing interest in. As a result, it is interesting to examine the relationships between countries in the region, as well as the changing way in which America views the nations in the region, and the evolution of the relationship between America and the nations in the region. Traditionally, the major power in the region has been Japan. Due to its economic might, Japan has been the major contributor to both the development of the region, and a major voice in local and global politics. In recent years, China has also been taking more of an active role in both economic and political arenas, which has meant that the power structure of the area has been subject to some change. Furthermore, many of the smaller nations, such as Taiwan and Korea, also have major contributions in the sociopolitical structure of the area, due to their historic interaction with the major nations and each other. The recent economic rise of China has had a growing impact on Japanese perceptions and expectations for the future. A poll found that 16 per cent of the Japanese people already regarded China to be the strongest economic power in the world, while a further 66 per cent predicted that China would be the strongest economic power by . When these perceptions are combined with the historic relationship between the two nations, and their current interaction, this does suggest that the next few years will be very interesting in terms of the evolution of Sino-Japanese relations. Tokyo has expressed its interest in becoming a permanent member of the UN Security Council in order to upgrade its international standing to a level commensurate with its economic status. This is a privilege China already enjoys, and therefore could be a valuable ally to the Japanese in lobbying for a similar position for themselves. To aid this ambition, Japan has been using its economic might to help China in its development as an economic power. Other reasons for helping China in this manner could be to help avoid China suffering from long-term isolation and resulting instability and the desire by Japan to encourage a healthy interdependence between the two countries. The rapid growth of the Chinese economy over recent years has also reinforced the importance of Sino-Japanese economic relations as the specter of trading blocs looms in the wake of the strengthening of the European Union and the development of similar blocs in the Americas. Increasingly, the economy of southern China has become more integrated with those of Hong Kong and Taiwan as overseas Chinese capital returns to China with the gradual opening up of Chinese markets. Given the large investments by Japanese corporations in companies operating in these regions, this has led to rapidly growing economic interdependence between Japan and China. Japan is also the fourth-largest investor in China after Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the United States respectively, and the most important provider of official economic assistance to China in the form of the ODA grant. Fortunately, the interests of China and Japan appear complementary in many areas. While China is a permanent United Nations Security Council member, it is a developing country economically. As a result, the two nations could use each other to each realize their own individual ambitions. However, the legacy of World War II continues to have repercussions on the bilateral relationship. The resentment felt against Japan among ordinary Chinese citizens is still very strong, even though relations between the two countries are currently amicable. Many Japanese tourists to China realize that Japan and the Japanese are not very well liked in China, despite the extensive technical and financial assistance they provide to the country. In addition, some Japanese find business with China and the Chinese people to be more difficult due to their nationality. While often outside the realm of government control, these misgivings could still be a source of diplomatic tension. Hence, historical legacies may put a damper on the Sino-Japanese partnership. Having examined the relationship between the two major powers in the area, it would also be useful to examine the relationships between these nations and other nations in the area, as well as those other nations themselves. Japan has always regarded Korea as critical to its own security; it fought two wars, with China and Russia, to secure

control over the peninsula in the early years of the twentieth century. The Koreans have not appreciated Japanese interest in the Peninsula. The era of Japanese colonial domination has left deep-seated bitterness toward the former colonial oppressor. The feeling is also reciprocated in Japan. South Koreans rank Japan as one of the countries they like least, second only to North Korea, while the Japanese rank South Korea third on their list of most-disliked nations, behind only North Korea and Russia. Koreans believe that the Japanese look down upon the Korean people and their culture, citing Japanese treatment of their own ethnic Korean population as indicative of that contempt. The security interests of Korea and Japan are also not identical. South Korea is primarily concerned with the threat posed to them by the North. South Koreans do not see Russia as a direct threat, but only as a secondary adversary due to its association with North Korea. Indeed, in the absence of a threat from Russia, it is more likely that South Korean security concerns would focus on Japan rather than Russia. Japan, on the other hand, perceived the U.S. as a primary direct threat and in the post Cold War era still continues to regard Russia with suspicion as a potential future threat. North Korea is not seen as a real independent threat to Japan. Today, South Korea and Japan are bound together by geography, economics, and mutual ties to the United States while Japanese trade, investment, and technology are vital to the economy of South Korea. For all this, Japan and Korea remain uneasy associates rather than true allies. The same cannot be said, however, for the relationship between China and Taiwan. The government in Taiwan was initially made up of Chinese nationalists who fled there from the Communist revolution. The initial mandate for the administration of Taiwan was to return to mainland China and regain control of the nation from the Communists. However, this ambition was gradually replaced by a focus on the island itself, particularly on the economic development of Taiwan. Taiwanese government has been democratically elected, and foremost on recent manifestos has been the issue of greater autonomy, or even complete independence, from the mainland. Recent years have seen native Taiwanese elements take control of the politics of the island, and the descendants of immigrants to the island from mainland China also consider themselves to be Taiwanese. On the other hand, China continues its rhetoric of threatening reunification through force. Due to the threat thus posed to it by China, Taiwan has been forced into a closer relationship with Japan.

2: The Cultural Geography of East Asia by Eric Venekamp on Prezi

This blog is designed to help my students be able to study and pull up World Geography assignments, notes, and vocabulary from home or on their phones.

WWII-present Japan flourishes as a democracy In terms of protection from hostile foreigners, geography was kind to Japan. Whereas China and Korea endured frequent invasions by Steppe nomads, Japan experienced only two. Both were attempted by the Mongols during the Mongol Empire period, and both were repelled. All emperors from this point forward in Japanese history are figureheads. The era of Fujiwara rule, known as the Heian period ca. This plunged Japan into centuries of isolation. As in China, the ruling elite was determined to maintain stability and order, to which the outside world was perceived as a serious threat. A,B The second half of the shogunate period, known as the Edo period aka Tokugawa period , witnessed the firm union of Japan under the Tokugawa dynasty. The stability of this period has earned it the nickname Great Peace. Soon after this traumatic event, the shogun was deposed by an oligarchy of nobles i. This reaction to Western imperialism contrasts sharply with that of China, where modernization would not be embraced for some decades. The ensuing period may be termed the imperial age of Japan ca. The nation also embraced democracy and achieved a tremendous economic recovery. In the nineteenth century, however, China faced the same inescapable fate as Japan, as European powers especially Britain forced the nation to open trade relations under skewed terms; early Chinese exports of which tea was the largest flowed mainly to Britain. With the fall of the shogunate, China also had to contend with Japanese expansionism. K,15 When the Qing dynasty was finally overthrown, a nominal republic actually a dictatorship was established, though its governing power was limited by internal dissent and a rival party the communist party. This Republic of China spanned roughly the interwar period. The country became sharply divided, as the government maintained popularity in the cities but faced a surging tide of rural unrest, due to neglect and mistreatment of the agricultural population. A,15,40 For several years after World War II, war raged within China between the Republic government and the aforementioned communist party; this struggle is known as the Chinese Civil War. The communists ultimately won, largely by garnering rural support via promises of land redistribution. They subsequently established the current Chinese government: The ousted republic government took refuge on Taiwan along with some two million supporters , which it continues to govern to this day. K The name "Republic of China" now denotes Taiwan. The leader of the communist party was Mao Zedong , who ruled China until the s. While Chinese relations with the USSR were initially strong, they quickly deteriorated, leaving China in the unusual position of being a communist Cold War nation outside the Soviet sphere. Two main factors in this deterioration may be identified: The first factor is evident enough, as Russia had been eroding Chinese territory for centuries. A The disagreement over Marxist policy requires a more detailed explanation. Marxism is a political theory that capitalist governments will eventually be overthrown by the working class, who will establish a "dictatorship of the proletariat" see Marxism. This dictatorship will proceed to transform the nation into a communist state in which there is no government: According to this approach, city workers as opposed to rural workers will be the driving force behind the creation of a communist state; therefore, one prerequisite to communism is a large urban working class, which means that a Marxist nation must pursue rapid industrialization. Orthodox Marxism also calls for a large bureaucracy, for although the "dictatorship of the proletariat" will be overseen by the working class, the administration of this dictatorship will be conducted by a bureaucracy of highly-educated intellectuals. Before long, however, Mao alienated Russia by shifting to a starkly different vision of the path to communism, which came to be known as Maoism. This unorthodox version of Marxism was limited mainly to Mao-era China. A,44 Mao had watched as Soviet Marxism, despite its lofty stated intentions, gave rise to widespread government corruption and economic stagnation. This contributed to his view that intellectuals and bureaucrats cannot be trusted, as they are only interested in seizing power for themselves. Indeed, he came to argue that any political or economic centralization would generally result in corruption and poor economic growth. A,44,46 Mao claimed that the true force for communist reform lay in the country rather than the city; a natural opinion for

Mao to hold, given the political division of China which, as noted earlier, consisted of rural support for the communists and urban support for the Republic. Instead of urban workers and intellectual-bureaucrats, Mao argued that the communist transition would be led by rural workers i. It was intended to boost economic growth via rapid decentralization, including small-scale communal farms and factories. Apart from being massively unrealistic, the Great Leap Forward was poorly and hastily implemented, ultimately begetting a terrible famine that killed tens of millions. A,⁴⁷ Although China has remained a dictatorship since the age of Mao, state control of the economy has been relaxed, allowing for foreign investment and privatization of much industry. Asian Tigers In the late twentieth century, four Asian nations apart from the three giants Japan, China, and India achieved extraordinary economic growth and development. While actually part of China, Hong Kong is largely autonomous, and is thus often discussed as though it were a separate nation. Accessed May , at

3: Geography for Kids: Southeast Asia

Chapter 27; The Cultural Geography of East Asia Section I The people of East Asia are very crowded. Mostly in eastern China and in Japan. East Asia currently holds around billion people. Which is about 23% of the world's total population. Some of the major ethnic groups include, Tibetan, Japanese.

Volume 14 Issue 7 Number 5 Summary The majority of studies on regional formation in East Asia both Northeast and Southeast Asia have focused on economic integration and institutional build-up initiated by states. Developments in the field of contemporary society and culture, however, have been largely overlooked. This study seeks to shed light on the way popular culture influences our perception of regions by examining some recent developments in the study of translational dissemination of popular culture across Asian societies. The paper argues that popular culture plays a constructive role in shaping the East Asian region by creating transnational markets for cultural commodities and by disseminating communalities of lifestyles and concepts, which are based on the experience of consuming the same cultural products by different people in different parts of East Asia. Introduction East Asia in the last two decades has experienced a cultural renaissance rooted in economic growth and booming urban consumerism, and manifested in the dense circulation of popular culture products, such as movies, pop music, animation, comics, television programs, and fashion magazines, not to mention their derivative products such as games, food, toys, accessories, etc. The "Korean Wave," better known as "Hallyu", which is the focus of this special issue, constitutes an important part of these developments. While many of these popular culture confluences and "waves" originated in Europe and the United States, a significant proportion is now produced and disseminated locally or within the Asian region. Confluences of Korean, Japanese and popular cultures, in particular, have not only intensified in recent decades, reaching consumers of different national and linguistic boundaries, but have also inspired a variety of transnational popular-culture collaborations and co-productions involving creative personnel from different parts of Asia. The result is that in virtually every big city in East Asia, it is possible to find a variety of imported popular cultural products that are regularly disseminated, indigenized, hybridized, and consumed. This literature provides substantial testimony for the proliferation of the various popular culture confluences and contains rich information and analysis relating to the practices and "meanings" of popular culture in an age of globalization. The overwhelming majority of the studies, many of them employing a close reading of media-as-texts, do this kind of analysis. Curiously, however, none of these studies of popular culture have been incorporated into political science, economics, and geography disciplines, especially in relation to the processes of region making. Very few studies have actually looked at the constructive role played by networks and mechanisms of distribution and consumption of popular culture in East Asia, or examined the cultural linkages they facilitate between communities across this region. While issues related to the impact of trade, finance, industry and technology on creating an integrated region in East Asia have been extensively analyzed in the available literature, popular culture has not. Given the long history of dissemination of popular culture across the region, and the more recent state policy regarding it and the development of major media alliances, why has culture barely figured in the critical discussion on region-making? While ASEAN The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, for example, has emerged as a hub of East Asian community-building, and to some extent norm-setting, its cultural impact as far as popular culture is concerned has been far less visible. Perhaps they introduce new images and options and create new social and symbolic references? In the case of East Asia, the dense circulation of popular culture plays a constructive role in shaping the way people perceive a "region. Popular culture consumption creates a special bond based on a shared experience between consumers. In this way, the circulation of popular culture puts East Asian fans, especially city residents, into a new cultural realm and invigorates a feeling of common-ness. This may suggest widening our understanding of a regional "community"-not only people of similar ethnic, national, or local belonging but a community of people from different locations who are exposed to the same cultural commodities and share the consequential perceptions, lifestyles and thoughts they offer. Specifically regarding Hallyu, this paper suggests that cultural consumption is creating a sense of community among fans

in the sense that it serves as a shared language for transnational communication that enhances a sense of "we-ness" and, at least for some, eventually constitutes part of their identity. What constitutes the "region" of East Asia? Regionalism also represents a deliberate attempt by states or their agents to create formal mechanisms for dealing with common issues in the pursuit of mutual benefits. Regionalization, on the other hand, refers in this literature to an indirect and bottom-up process that increases the proximity between markets, institutions, and communities, in geographical and conceptual domains broader than two states. Others argue that "regional dynamism" and cross-border economic activities, more than formal agreements between governments or a shared historical or cultural "Asian" background, have promoted formation of the region for example, Buzan ; Frost ; Funabashi ; Harvie, Kimura, and Lee ; and Pempel This sort of market-led regional dynamism continues despite an obvious lack of strong regional institutionalization in East Asia-especially when compared to the EU. However, the construction of regions is not only the result of economic dynamism and state-led initiatives, but also other processes emerging from populations within a certain geographical area Hettne Cultural anthropologist Arjun Appadurai challenges the theoretical understanding of regional formation, arguing that the concept of the region is not based on any "natural" formation and that there is no way that regions should be defined. According to him, "the large regions that dominate our current maps for area studies are not permanent geographical facts[â€]Regions are best viewed as initial contexts for themes that generate variable geographies, rather than as fixed geographies marked by pre-given themes" Appadurai, In this sense, academic interaction is important to "hav[ing] elaborated interests and capabilities in constructing world pictures whose very interaction affects global processes" Ibid: Here Appadurai conveys the idea of regional formation being a matter of attribute emanating from social and cultural interactions and not by state actors or economic activity. Although Appadurai does not clearly explain how regions should be defined, his vision is far-reaching in the challenge he presents to the theoretical literature. The study of regional formation in East Asia thus requires a methodological and interdisciplinary pluralism that considers a variety of possible regionalizing factors, including new definitions for regions. As contested by Peter J. Katzenstein, "geographic designations are not "real", "natural", or "essential", but are "socially constructed and politically contested and thus open to change" Katzenstein, In the following paragraphs I suggest that popular culture is one such force, nested within other factors and processes, which shape the way the East Asian region is being appropriated and perceived. Popular culture and region-making Looking at the regional flow of popular culture in East Asia, especially in cities, may advance our empirical and theoretical understanding of how regionalization actually works and more basically what constitutes a "region. Examining the actual operations and networks which drive the dissemination and consumption of popular culture not only reveals the bottom-up logic of regionalization, but also illuminates the actual practices and processes of regionalism. It shows the collaboration and interlinking of companies, the creation of transnational cultural platforms, the distribution of products, and the belated policy initiatives of governments. The culture of consumerism in East Asian cities Secondly, popular culture play a constructive role in pulling people closer together by providing them with a shared experience invigorated by the consumption of cultural commodities. The commodification, production, marketing, pirating, and consumption of popular cultures first encourage collaborations between companies and individuals involved in these processes. Moreover, these activities also construct new frameworks for delivering images, ideas, and emotions, which can invigorate feelings of proximity and belonging. In other words, it creates a new sort of community that stretches beyond the reach of the state and may challenge it. The spread of popular culture help people in East Asia to develop a common language made up of the same sounds, images, and texts available through music and smartphones, TV and movie screens, in comic publications, on commercial billboards, or via the Internet. These commodities and images do not have to be uniquely East Asian, as long as they are shared by wide segments of the East Asian population. Asian pop music in a Music Shop in Hong Kong Third, the growing involvement of a few states in East Asia in the media and cultural industries has intensified the inner-regional flow of popular culture. Following the commercial success of these industries, the governments of South Korea, Japan, and China now see popular cultural products as both a profitable economic sector and a means to attain "soft power. In Japan, for example, no fewer than thirteen governmental

ministries and agencies are in one way or another involved in promoting the so-called "content industries" Zykas A recent example is the establishment in July of the Creative Industries Division within the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry METI , to supervise the promotion of "cool" Japan abroad and assist Japanese small and midsize culture-related firms develop a global strategy. These all are expected to boost popular culture production in East Asia even further and increase governmental involvement. The regionalization of taste In East Asia, as in other parts of the world, American popular culture continues to loom over the markets. American products are successfully marketed in most places where local income levels have reached a certain standard. Their greatest visibility and impact still remains within the cultural geography of East Asia Lent and Fitzsimmons ; Fung The growth in intra-regional trade and consumption of popular culture in East Asia is related to several socio-cultural and technological changes. These include the emergence of a large pool of middle-class consumers who have time and money to spend, the advent of social media where cultural content is delivered and consumed almost instantly, the dissemination of accessible devices for consuming popular culture such as DVD players and smart phones, and the easing of political control over the importation of culture as part of neo-liberal policies toward the media industries Chua ; Jin ; Otmazgin and Ben-Ari These have all encouraged entrepreneurs, as well as the popular culture industries and their promoters, to seek new expansion opportunities beyond their immediate domestic market. In turn, the feedback from Asian audiences encourages cultural creativity in China and convinces the Chinese industries to look beyond their immediate domestic audiences. The culture and entertainment sections of local newspapers in Singapore, Bangkok, and Manila constantly depict Chinese music, TV, and movie artists, making Pan-Asian Chinese pop culture a reality. The fact that the non-China Chinese popular culture is sometimes glitzier and more fluid, makes it popular among Chinese in China and eventually contributes to the melding of transnational Chinese audiences from different parts of East Asia. Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Taipei have evolved as incubator sites for Chinese cultural production, especially in animation, digital television, and video games, in spite of the state censorship that still sometimes interferes. Chinese pop music, in both Mandarin and Cantonese, is increasingly popular among young Chinese audiences in East Asia. Taiwan has recently replaced Hong Kong as the regional hub of Mandarin-language pop and is the source of approximately 80 percent of sales of Mandarin music. The Chinese comic-book industry manhua initially absorbed many influences from Japanese manga starting as far back as the s, but has recently been developing its own recognizable identity away from the Japanese model Berndt This new creativity is expressed not only in a wide range of movie, anime, TV and comic-book productions but also in urban theater shows dealing with contemporary social issues, as well as contemporary arts and avant garde culture in urban studios, such as art village in Beijing. These processes create a sort of Chinese popular culture language regionalism that encompass different parts of East Asia. Japanese fashion magazines sold in Hong Kong Japanese cultural products are widely distributed throughout East Asia. During the s and the early s, Japanese music, television programs, animation, and comics have carved out an integral position in East Asian markets, introducing young consumers to a variety of new consumption opportunities and lifestyles. Japanese music artists, such as Hamasaki Ayumi and Utada Hikaru are widely known in the region. Utada Hikaru has sold more than one million copies of her three albums over the last six years in Thailand alone! Japanese television programs and animation series such as Doraemon, Tiger Mask, and Detective Conan are constantly broadcast on public television and cable channels in Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia. Japanese manga are routinely translated into Thai, Bahasa, and Tagalog too. Japanese fashion magazines are also an effective distribution of contemporary culture and lifestyle. In about a decade, South Korean television dramas, movies, music, and fashion have gained immense popularity throughout the region, adding a variety of new images and consumption opportunities. With a marketing strategy that mixes television exposure, commercials, and music, South Korean idols have also become phenomenally popular throughout the region. Even more recently, Korean fashion is also gaining momentum. Increasingly for these people, popular-culture consumerism has become an integral way of life, which creates a bond with other people who share the same urban lifestyle. In other words, for them, popular culture has become an important factor in value production-not only in the economic sense but also in the social and cultural sense. Put differently, these developments encourage trans-nationality where the nation

state ceases to be the main framework of production and consumption and, instead, foreign audiences are considered by producers to be an integral part of their popular-culture community. Anime gathering cosplay in Bangkok As a result of all this activity, East Asian urban consumers today have multiple popular culture preferences, deriving from multiple centers. Millions of youth in places like Singapore, Hanoi, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, and Jakarta can covet the latest fashions from Tokyo, listen to the same genre of American pop music, watch Chinese dramas on television or online, read Japanese comic books, and go with friends to watch the latest Korean movie. Through the dissemination of popular culture, people in different places can, for example, watch a certain genre of animation program throughout their childhood and listen to the same genre of music as teenagers. If they eventually meet, they will have a lot more in common than if these products had not been available. Imagining the East Asia region through popular culture A few important questions arise from the relationship between popular culture and the regionalization process in East Asia: Is popular culture a significant enough phenomenon that it should be recognized as contributing to the creation of this specific "region"? Is popular culture important enough to make people within East Asia feel distinct and share a common identity? The available literature on popular culture only partly addresses these questions while, as noted above, the political science literature on regions ignores them altogether. While cognizant of the region-specific cultural resonance and asymmetry of intra-Asian flows, the literature on popular culture in East Asia does not systematically explore the implications of popular culture for regionalization. However, the statistics on the export of Japanese and Korean TV programs, for example, suggest that there is a geographical reach, scope and limit to the networking and patterns of popular culture flow and consumption, that is creating an imagined East Asian region. The geographical field tends to vary from one product to another, however, as does the density and directionality of this flow. The East Asia "region" is thus a convenient but notoriously slippery term, since Japanese and Korean popular culture flows have less visibility in, say, Cambodia, Myanmar or the Indian market, than they do in Taiwan, China, and the major cities of East Asia. Nevertheless, a few important conclusions can be drawn by looking at the dissemination and acceptance of popular culture across East Asia. First, market forces-and not governmental policies-are at the heart of the process, promoting and spurring the construction of new cultural linkages. The dissemination of popular culture in East Asia is essentially the result of bottom-up processes not directly guided by the states-and at times even taking place in spite of them. Second, as noted above, the dissemination of popular culture is centered on cities and their middle class residents rather than encompassing the entire population as a whole. In this sense, the regional acceptance of popular culture in East Asia is fragmented: This connective-ness between cities and their inhabitants is not an equal process, but a socially selective one. Third, the East Asian region is not isolated from economic and cultural developments in the wider Asian region or globally. Nevertheless, there is a concentration of certain popular culture flows and influences found most intensively in the cultural geography of urban East Asia such as Japanese fashion magazines, Chinese pop music, and Korean idol culture.

4: Geography of Asia - Wikipedia

Nevertheless, there is a concentration of certain popular culture flows and influences found most intensively in the cultural geography of urban East Asia (such as Japanese fashion magazines, Chinese pop music, and Korean idol culture).

It is similar in that it is a temperate climate, with colder winters and warm summers. It is different in that most of the rainfall occurs during the warm summer months, rather than during the winter months. This abundant water supply during the warm growing season allows for intensive agriculture, with two and sometimes three crop cycles per year. The summer rains are borne by monsoon winds, determined by the land mass of Central Asia: Rice is best grown in flooded fields, or paddies. Since rice produces a much higher yield per acre than does a crop such as wheat, it can support a much greater population per acre than does wheat. Climate, agriculture, and population size are closely related in East Asia where large population densities have existed throughout history. Chinese civilization written script, Confucian thought, and Buddhism that had come to China from India spread northward to the Korean peninsula and then to the islands of Japan, and southward to what is today northern Vietnam -- engendering dialogue and exchange among the four countries of the East Asian cultural sphere. The climate of all four countries supports wet rice agriculture. These areas were predominantly settled in the past by nomadic peoples. Japan is an island country composed of four main islands and thousands of smaller ones. The main islands are, at their closest point, miles off the coast of Asia. Japan is the tenth most populous country in the world; its land area is comparable to that of Italy or California. The Japanese islands lack most of the natural resources necessary to support an industrialized economy. These resources must be imported. The Korean peninsula shares borders with China and Russia; it is the portion of the Asian mainland closest to the Japanese islands. The Korean peninsula is well endowed with natural resources. South Korea ranked 25 among the countries of the world in population, with approximately 49,, people in North Korea ranked 49, with approximately 24,, people in If the population of the two Koreas is combined, the peninsula would have a total of approximately 73,, people and rank 18 among world countries " with more people than Turkey, France, or England. Vietnam is divided naturally into northern and southern areas, divided by mountains that reach the sea in the central area. Both the northern and southern regions are in turn dominated by a river delta: Historically, different groups held power respectively in the northern, central, and southern regions of Vietnam. Vietnam ranked 13 among the countries of the world in population, with approximately 85,, people in , a population larger than that of Germany. Reischauer, and Albert Craig, East Asia: Tradition and Transformation Boston:

5: Political and Cultural Geography of Southeast Asia

Start studying Cultural Geography of East Asia - Must Know (15%). Learn vocabulary, terms, and more with flashcards, games, and other study tools.

Chiang Mai, Hat Yai Vietnam: Southeast Asia is located on the equator, which means almost the entire region falls within the humid tropics. Southeast Asia is conventionally divided into two cultural, linguistic, and geographic regions: While many countries in Southeast Asia today have dense populations, in the past the region had considerably lower population density than major Asian countries like India, China and Japan. The low population density placed a premium on the ability of leaders and rulers to attract people to various population centers. River valleys, deltas, and major maritime trading ports that were well-positioned along trading routes between India and China were the areas where early population centers, major kingdoms, and great temples first arose. Southeast Asian maritime skills were highly developed in Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. The combination of rice agriculture and maritime skills led to the development of two different kinds of classical Southeast Asian states: Two of the earliest states that exemplify these different forms of adaptation were: The Khmers, or Cambodians, developed Angkor in a region of Cambodia that had a long dry season and an intensive wet season. To develop a great state, they built reservoirs that could trap rain during the wet season for use during the subsequent dry period. Tonle Sap is a great lake in the center of the Cambodian Basin, a low-lying area only feet above sea level. During the monsoon, or rainy season, Tonle Sap lake increases over 6 times its normal depth as it absorbs the flooded waters of the Mekong River. With advanced hydraulic engineering skills, the Khmer made Angkor a spectacularly successful rice-growing area where three crops a year were grown to support a population in excess of one million. Trade throughout the hundreds of miles of the Khmer kingdom, which at its peak covered large areas of Thailand, Laos, and Vietnam, played only a marginal role in the development of this state. Srivijaya, Sumatra in Indonesia: International trading ships in the 7th century between the Middle East, India, and China passed through the Straits of Malacca --the narrow body of ocean that separates Sumatra from Malaysia. Western goods and foreign products were exchanged in China for silks and porcelains. Since trading ports and empires were located close to the sea, the coastal environment tends to be swampy and less suitable to intensive agriculture compared to inland areas. Hence, trade, not agriculture, became the focal point for major maritime states that evolved in this region. Upland and Lowland Distinctions in Southeast Asia: Just as the great civilizations of Southeast Asia were located along rivers, deltas, coastal areas or geographic locations suitable for intensive rice agriculture, there are similar geographic contrasts in the characteristics of peoples who live in the lowland areas versus the highland areas. Generally, upland areas can be characterized as having lower population densities, greater heterogeneity in languages, cultures, and ethnicity, greater political fragmentation, and slash burn cultivation of root or grain crops. Slash and burn cultivation, or swidden agriculture, is based on a system wherein standing tropical forest is cut and cleared before the rainy season begins. After the timber dries, farmers burn the cut area, which leaves a thick layer of ash on the soil. When the ash is mixed with the soil, it provides important nutrients and phosphate that increase soil fertility and hence the productivity and size of crops. The rainy season further pushes these nutrients into the soil. After one or two years of cultivation, the farmer needs to cut down a new area of the forest and abandon the original plots for years so that the forest will grow back. Slash and burn cultivation usually necessitates some mobility of the population over time, hence requiring a fairly large area of land per person. Wet rice agriculture, in contrast, is a form of permanent agriculture that involves radically transforming the landscape. Farmers must build terraces and irrigation canals to regular the flow of water from streams and rivers. Nutrients are provided through the algae that form in the water of the rice paddies. This type of rice agriculture is more intensive, and responds well to increased labor inputs. Hence, since in tropical lowland areas a farmer can get two seasons a year of rice without difficulty, wet rice was the support base for many Southeast Asian states. Rice Paddy in the lowland Philippines Rice terrace in upland Luzon, Philippines Lowland Southeast Asian areas generally have much larger areas of language similarity, higher population densities, and greater or larger forms of political

integration than do upland areas. One-third of Asians did not have access to clean water; one-half did not have access to adequate sanitation facilities. The financial crisis in Asia during the period halted or slowed the fairly recent efforts by Southeast Asian states to invest in greater environmental regulations and conservation efforts. Even as environmental budgets were cut by many governments whose currencies lost value during this period, the need for foreign exchange created powerful pressures to export ever-larger quantities of fish, minerals, agricultural and plantation products. Furthermore, while many states already have lost most of their primary forest cover, additional incentives now exist to increase commercial tropical timber production and export. Total forest plantations in Indonesia covered 3. In Indonesia, illegal fishing dynamite fishing, cyanide fishing for aquarium fish exports also appears to have increased during this period of financial crisis. Some economists view the devastation to the forest and marine resource environments of Southeast Asian countries to be a more serious, longer-lasting problem than economic recovery and banking reforms in the region.

6: The Cultural Geography of Southeast Asia

The Geography of East Asia The climate of East Asia is both similar to and different from that of Europe and the United States. It is similar in that it is a temperate climate, with colder winters and warm summers.

Definition and boundaries of Asia The land mass of Asia is not the sum of the land masses of each of its regions, which have been defined independently of the whole. For example, the borders of Central Asia and the Middle East depend on who is defining them and for what purpose. These varying definitions are not generally reflected in the map of Asia as a whole; for example, Egypt is typically included in the Middle East, but not in Asia, even though the Middle East is a division of Asia. The border with Europe starts with the coast of the eastern Mediterranean, even though Turkey in the Near East extends partly into the Aegean Islands and includes Istanbul on the European side of the Bosphorus. On the north the boundary between the continents of Asia and Europe is commonly regarded as running through the Dardanelles, the Sea of Marmara, the Bosphorus, the Black Sea, the Caucasus Mountains, the Caspian Sea, the Ural River to its source, and a long border generally following the eastern side of the Ural Mountains to the Kara Sea, Russia. The Arctic Ocean is the northern border. On the southeast of Asia are the Malay Peninsula the limit of mainland Asia and Indonesia "Isles of India", the former East Indies, a vast nation among thousands of islands on the Sunda Shelf, large and small, inhabited and uninhabited. Australia nearby is a different continent. Most of the islands in the Indian Ocean are Asian. Overall dimensions[edit] Different sources give different estimates of the area enclosed by the imaginary border of Asia. The map surface of mainland Asia is entirely contained within a Geodetic quadrangle formed from segments of latitude going through its north and south extremes and segments of longitude passing through the east and west extremes. Indonesia to the southeast, a nation consisting of thousands of islands, adds a significant amount of territory to mainland Asia and extends the extreme Asian latitude further south. The geographic nature of the country raises such questions as whether the sea and the seabed count as Asia. The Australia-Indonesia border is still being negotiated. Currently a treaty remains unratified. As there are questions of fishing rights in the waters and mineral rights in the seabed, two different boundaries are being negotiated, one for the water column and one for the seabed. Views of Asia[edit] The geographical or traditional view[edit] Medieval Europeans considered Asia as a continent, a distinct landmass. The European concept of the three continents in the Old World goes back to classical antiquity. Definition of continents has long been and remains primarily the realm of geographers, including cultural geographers as well as physical geographers. The three-continent system was an idea devised in Archaic Greece, a time of Greek colonial expansion and trade throughout the Mediterranean and the spread of writing again. Writing is a prerequisite of written geography. It had been lost during the preceding Greek Dark Ages, a period of piracy at sea and defensive parochialism on land. The preceding Mycenaean Greece left scant record of some serving women from a locality in the later Asia Minor called Asia. Europe was mainly Greece, while Libya was a small region to the west of Egypt. There was no systematic definition of "continent;" however, the Greek mariners did make a distinction that was to become one: In Latin it became *continen terra*, "the continuous land," shortened to just *continen*s, stem *continent-*. Most ships of the Archaic Period were not ocean-going. They followed the shores closely, ready to put in at the first sign of trouble. It is not surprising that the first continents were "shores," as they are in Herodotus, first historian whose works are extant, who relies on earlier geography now missing except for fragments. Asia is defined by two *akrai*, "bluffs" or "shores. The second runs from Phoenicia to the Red Sea the ancient Red Sea comprised also the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean and from there to India, after which "no man can say what sort of region it is. Asia is equal to its shores, which also define Europe and Libya. The northern shore runs eastward along the line of the Phasis and Araxes Rivers; that is, south of the Caucasus Mountains, and around the south of the Caspian Sea. The southern shore continues the Red Sea and the Nile River, as Darius had constructed a canal between them. This division and system was already in place before Herodotus. He professes not to understand it: He says that an alternate northern border is the mouth of the Don River. The key is the coast-hugging requirement of most ancient navigation. As the ancient navigator passed under the Rock of

Gibraltar on his way into the Mediterranean Sea "our sea" to those who lived there , two paths appeared to him, the north shore or the south shore. The canal extended the southern shore into the Red Sea. The symmetry of the scheme was too geometric for the Greeks to resist, as they represented all geographic masses by regular figures if they could. A triangle prevailed in the Greek imagination with points at the Pillars, the Tanais and the Red Sea. As the sides were three shores, the continents were three. Further information on the etymology of Asia: Name of Asia Imperial Roman geography[edit] The geographer, Claudius Ptolemaeus , distinguishes between geography, which is "a representation in picture of the whole known world," and chorography "study of places" , which "treats more fully the particulars. Geographers consult them but they do not write geography unless they happen to be both. Ptolemy was a geographer of the middle Roman Empire, an Egyptian. Stating that "continents are bounded more properly, when it is possible, by seas than by rivers," Ptolemy defines a three-continent system: In the north the border between Asia and Europe is a meridian through the mouth of the Don River northward "to the unknown region. Definition of continental plates is the realm of geologists. Strictly in terms of geological landmasses or tectonic plates, Europe is a western peninsula of Eurasia and of the Africa-Eurasia landmass. In the latter, Europe and Asia are parts of the Eurasian plate, which excludes the Arabian and Indian tectonic plates. Regional view[edit] In human geography, there are several schools of thought. The more common school follows historical convention and treats Europe and Asia as different continents, categorizing East Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East as specific regions for more detailed analysis. Other schools equate the word "continent" to geographical "region" when referring to Europe and Asia in terms of physical geography. See the List of transcontinental countries for further geographic definitions. Asia contains the Indian subcontinent , Arabian peninsula , as well as a piece of the North American plate in Siberia. Regions[edit] Since the 18th century Asia has been divided into several subregions independently defined from Asia as a whole. There have been no historical consensus and there is not now any universal consensus on the use of these terms, just as there is none for the word "Asia". The regions of Asia include:

7: China | Culture, History, & People | www.enganchecubano.com

Asia is home to the world's oldest civilizations, and its cultural and political geography continue to inform and influence the rest of the world.

8: Mr. E's World Geography Page: Chapter The Cultural Geography of East Asia

Southeast Asia is located on the equator, which means almost the entire region falls within the humid tropics. 2. Southeast Asia is conventionally divided into two cultural, linguistic, and geographic regions.

9: The Cultural Geography of East Asia

Physical Geography. East Asia is surrounded by a series of mountain ranges in the west, Mongolia and Russia in the north, and Southeast Asia to the south.

Chiefs of Nations: First Edition Official Microsoft FrontPage 2000 Book Sp physical education book for class 11
Rojankovskys wonderful picture book Abbi glines rosemary beach series Christology and Discipleship in the Gospel of Mark Souvenir from the Washington State Penitentiary, Walla Walla, Washington Works book of knowledge Role of hybrid imaging : PET/CT and SPECT/CT Marcelo F. Di Carli The Thompson Chain Reference Bible Credit risk analysis case study filetype Great political eccentrics A canalside camera, 1845-1930 The Vascular Plants of Western Riverside County, California Trade, trade liberalisation, and economic growth Soon-Hee in America Names and their histories Pattern price and time using gann theory Around old Horbury A case study in syntactic markedness Bar bending machine manual Pt. 1. General pathology. Adobe Illustrator Increase of pension for Daniel Carter. Cromwells crowning mercy Hand-book to the flora of Ceylon St. Winifreds well. Importance of classroom management From Cornhill to Grand Cairo Amiga user interface style guide Inspectors general Klein und Wagner. General accounting manual : Ive got the whole world Implementing Total Quality Management (Financial Times Pitman) Science of social issues. Hotel gems of France Tenderfoot in Space Automotive Heating, Ventilation, and Air-Conditioning Systems (Chek-Chart Automotive) World War adjusted compensation. Social forces affecting public libraries and schools