AP Human Geography - Chapter Six: Religion

1. What questions about religion do geographers try to answer? **Where and Why?**

2. Why do geographers find the tensions between globalization and local diversity especially acute in religion? (Give five reasons.)
   1. People care deeply about their religion and draw their core values and beliefs from it
   2. Some religions have universal appeal and others local appeal
   3. Religious values show how people feel and the meaningful ways they alter the landscape
   4. Most (but not all) religions require strict adherence, so adopting a global religion could mean turning away from traditional local religion
   5. Migrants take their religion with them and typically don’t adopt a new religion, but unlike language retain their own

3. Explain how universalizing religions differ from ethnic religions: **Universalizing religions** attempt to be global and appeal to all people, not to just one culture or location. An ethnic religion appeals primarily to one group of people living in one place

4. Identify each of the following:
   a. Religious branch: a large and fundamental division within a religion
   b. Religious denomination: a division of a branch that unites a number of local congregations in a single legal and administrative body
   c. Religious sect: a relatively small group that has broken away from an established denomination

5. Name the three universalizing religions
   a. Christianity
   b. Islam
   c. Buddhism
6. Name the 3 branches of Christianity, their percentages and locations (2 Billion adherents) in the chart below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roman Catholic</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>Southwest and East Europe, Latin America, Southwest and Northeast U.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protestant</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>Northwest Europe, United States, Canada, Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Orthodox</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>East and Southeast Europe,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Describe the geographic locations of the following religions in the USA.

   a. Roman Catholic: **Southwest and Northeast U.S.**
   
   b. Baptist: **The South**
   
   c. Methodist: **Mid-Atlantic and Midwest states**
   
   d. Lutheran: **Upper Midwest**
   
   e. Mormon: **Mountain West**

8. Describe the geographic location of Islam (1 Billion adherents): **Middle East from North Africa to Central Asia**

9. Name the 2 branches of Islam, and their percentages and locations:

   a. Sunni, 83%, Middle east and Asia
   
   b. Shiite 16%, 90% in Iran, 15% Pakistan, 10% Iraq, 10% Turkey and other countries

10. Describe the Nation of Islam and its origins: or Black Muslims founded in Detroit in 1930 led by Elijah Muhammad. A dispute with Malcolm X divided the sect during the 1960’s when we split off, and was assassinated. Now is closer to orthodox Islam, but a splinter group has retained the teachings of Elijah Muhammad

11. Indicate the number of Buddhists: 350 million adherents

12. Name three branches of Buddhism and their location: **Mahayanists 56% in China, Japan, Korea. Theravadists 38% in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. Tantrayanists 6% in Tibet and Mongolia**

13. Indicate the number of Hindu followers and their location: **900 million adherents in India**
14. Where are each of the following practices found and what is unique about each?

c. Confucianism: Ethnic Religion in China that establishes a set of ethical principles for the conduct of daily life

d. Daoism (Taoism): Ethnic religion in China and Taiwan founded by Lao Tse a follower of Confucius who emphasized the mystical and magical aspects of life rather than the importance of public service

e. Shintoism: Ethnic religion of Japan that considers forces of nature to be divine

f. Judaism: An ethnic religion of the Jews in Israel and throughout the world. Two of the main universalizing religions, Christianity and Islam find some of their roots in Judaism

15. Explain 3 reasons why Judaism plays a large role in Western civilization.

a. First recorded monotheistic religion

b. Two of the main universalizing religions, Christianity and Islam find some of their roots in Judaism

c. About 6 million Jews live in the United States

16. Explain animism: Belief that inanimate objects such as plants and stones, or natural events such as thunderstorms and earthquakes have spirits

17. Briefly describe the origins of the three main branches of Christianity:

Roman Catholics accept the teachings of Bible and Church Hierarchy headed by the Pope and practice the seven sacraments. Eastern Orthodox accept the Bible and the seven sacraments, but not new doctrines added by the Pope and church hierarchy. Protestantism began with Martin Luther’s belief that people were responsible for their own salvation and could communicate directly with God rather than through sacraments performed by the church

18. Briefly describe the origins of Islam and its two main branches:

Islam begins with Abraham like Christianity and Judaism, but trace their story through second wife and son, Hagar and Ishmael, not Sarah and Isaac like the Christians and jews. Their leader and prophet is Muhammad. Sunni’s and Shiite’s disagreed over the line of succession in Islam after Muhammad died.

19. Briefly describe the origins of Buddhism:

Founded by Sidhartha Gautama in present day Nepal. He lived a privileged life. According to legend his life changed after four trips. He encountered a decrepit old man, a disease ridden man, a corpse on the third trip and a monk on the 4th trip who taught him about withdrawal from the world. He lived in the forest for six years meditating and emerged the Buddha “awakened or enlightened one” and spent 45 years travelling
across India teaching his views. Theravadists stress cite Buddha’s wisdom introspection and Mahayanist’s his compassion and teaching and helping others

20. Briefly describe the origins of Hinduism:

Hinduism existed prior to recorded history and has no specific founder. The earliest surviving Hindu documents were written around 1500 B.C.

21. Explain how each of the following Universalizing religions diffused:

a. Christianity: relocation diffusion through missionaries. Hierarchial diffusion as the Roman empires official religion. Christianity became the dominant religion in North and South America because of the early explorers and colonizers from Europe

b. Islam: Military conquest into North Africa and Western Europe. Arab traders travelling to Indonesia. Mostly contagious diffusion through direct contact

c. Buddhism: mostly relocation diffusion through missionaries. Diffused mostly to surrounding countries and territories. Was slow to diffuse outside the area of origin

22. Why haven’t ethnic religions spread? Lack of missionaries. Sometimes they are replaced by universalizing religions like Christianity and Islam

23. How have ethnic religions interacted with universalizing religions? Many African religions have adopted Christian practices, and Shintoism has borrowed many Buddhist practices. Many Buddhist Dieties for example became Shinto Dieties

24. Why is Judaism an exception to most ethnic religions? Judaism is practiced in many countries of the world not just its’ place of origin because of the diaspora – when the Jews were forced to disperse around the world by the Romans around A.D. 70.

25. Compare the significance of holy places between universalizing and ethnic religions:

In universalizing religions holy sites are often associated with major events in the life of the founder (birth, death, etc.). They do not have to be associated with any particular environment and pilgrimages to these sites is encouraged. In Ethnic religions most holy sites are found in the physical environment (rock formations, rivers, or mountains)

26. Define cosmogony: Set of religious beliefs about the origins of the universe found in ethnic religions (ex; the forces of Yin and Yang that make up the universe and create balance according to Conficianism and Daoism

27. Compare the role of the calendar between universalizing and ethnic religions. Ethnic holidays are based on the physical environment and seasons. Universalizing religions base their holidays more on events in the life of the founder
28. Compare and contrast the purpose of religious structures in Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism:

a. Christianity: The Christian landscape is dominated by a high density of churches used as places of worship, and sometimes considered sanctified or sacred places.

b. Islam: Muslims consider the Mosque as a place for community assembly and prayer, but not as a sacred place.

c. Hinduism: Temples are built to house shrines for specific Gods. Most religious functions and worship take place within the home

d. Buddhism: Pagodas contain relics believed to be part of Buddha’s body or clothing after his death. Pagodas are not for worship, but nearby temples and remote monasteries are where most prayer and meditation takes place

29. Explain how geography has affected burial practices: Christians, Muslims, and Jews normally bury their dead in a cemetery. Cemeteries take up considerable open space. Cremation is encouraged in China because of the loss of farm land to burial grounds. Hindus generally cremate the dead, because it is considered an act of purification. Some groups including Tibetan Buddhists practice exposure, so the dead body doesn’t contaminate the surrounding sacred earth, fire, and water. In areas near water like parts of Micronesia disposal of bodies at sea is normal (but not as common as in the past)

30. Why have utopian settlements had a difficult time surviving?

The members of some communities were celibate and failed to attract new members. Members of some groups left in search of work and never returned. Members are expected to integrate religion into every aspect of their life in most Utopian settlements. Most settlements have been destroyed or the original inhabitants replaced by people in the local community

31. Compare a hierarchical religion to an autonomous religion:
A hierarchical religion has a well defined geographic structure and organizes territory into local administrative units (ex: Roman Catholicism). Islam, a universalizing and autonomous religion has no formal religious hierarchy or formal territorial organization.

32. What is religious fundamentalism? A literal interpretation and a strict and intense adherence to basic principles of a religion. One way local religions maintain their independence and identity in the face of globalization
Religion vs. Government Policies

33. Explain the following conflicts:

a. Hinduism vs. Social Equality: The rigid caste system

b. Eastern Orthodox Christianity and Islam vs. the Soviet Union: Under communism the Soviet Union pursued antireligious programs

c. Buddhism vs. Southeast Asia Countries: Buddhists were hurt by the Vietnam War when many Buddhist shrines were destroyed by bombing raids into Cambodia. The Khmer Rouge and Vietnamese communists destroyed many more. Buddhist set themselves on fire to protest policies of the South Vietnam government. Today many shrines in Communist Vietnam are wearing away because religion is discouraged by the communist government.

Religion vs. Religion

34. Explain the following religious wars in the Middle East:

a. Christians vs. Muslims: The Crusades were fought over control of the Holy land

b. Jews vs. Muslims: Dispute over present day Israel and specifically control of the city of Jerusalem. The Palestinian desire for a homeland.

35. Explain the religious war in Ireland: Northern Ireland is predominantly Protestant and voted to remain part of the United Kingdom instead of the rest of Ireland which is 95% Catholic. A militant group of Roman Catholics joined the Irish Republican Army to achieve Irish national unity through any means. Extremist Protestant groups were organized to fight the IRA which has led to more than 3000 deaths in northern Ireland. Presently the fighting has slowed down in Ireland and both sides are working on a settlement, but it is difficult because both sides are committed to their cause.