# HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 710

Social Sciences Review

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

- **The Meaning of History** | 6
- **The Historical Method** | 11
- **The Geography of the Earth** | 13
- **The Geography and Early History of the United States** | 21
- **Self Test 1** | 26

### 2. ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

- **The Study of Man** | 30
- **The Nature of Man** | 39
- **The Culture of Man** | 42
- **The Cultural Groups of the United States** | 45
- **Social Change in the United States** | 52
- **Self Test 2** | 54

### 3. ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

- **The Discipline of Economics** | 58
- **The Economics of the State** | 65
- **The Discipline of Political Science** | 66
- **The Government of the State** | 73
- **The Politics of the State** | 76
- **Self Test 3** | 79

LIFEPAC Test is located in the center of the booklet. Please remove before starting the unit.
Social Sciences Review

Introduction

History is one continuous story beginning with the Father before the Creation. In fact, history can be defined as the known story of man and his relationship to God, to mankind, and to his environment. Ancient civilizations had their own sense of history, and some of their elements also are found in the Hebrew-Christian view of history today.

The character of the historian and the accuracy of his data determine the quality of historiography. The historian must possess moral standards. He must be accurate, honest, and free of prejudice.

Geography is the study of the earth's shape, movement, and relief. The geography of the earth (man's physical environment) determines, to a large extent, the way people live and the cultures they develop.

Anthropology and sociology are two social sciences directly concerned with the study of man, his way of life or culture, and his social groups and institutions. In this LIFEPAC® you will learn that the anthropologist and the sociologist must possess many of the same traits of character required of the historian.

Economics is the study of the ways man attempts to use his resources to provide for his basic needs and to fulfill some of his wants and desires. In this LIFEPAC® you will learn that the Bible teaches us, Christians, that our heavenly Father knows all our needs. You will also learn that the Bible teaches us many principles of financial responsibility.

Political science is concerned with the rules and procedures man uses to govern himself. In this LIFEPAC you will learn how Western political thought directly influenced one of our nation's most important documents, the Preamble to the Declaration of Independence.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAC. When you have finished this LIFEPAC, you should be able to:

1. Define the Christian's view of history.
2. Identify the contributions of ancient civilizations.
3. Describe the elements of the historical method.
4. Give examples of the relationship between geography and man's way of life.
5. Describe the tools and methods of the anthropologist and sociologist.
6. Explain the origin and nature of culture and of social institutions.
7. Tell how culture is influenced by environment.
8. List elements of social change.
9. Describe different economic systems.
10. Explain the origin of Western political thought.
11. Define important political and economic concepts.
12. Describe the political structure of the federal and state governments.
1. HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

History is one continuous story beginning with the Father before Creation. History may be defined as the known story of man and his relationship to God, to mankind, and to his environment. To Christians, history is the record of man's creation and fall, Christ's redemption for sin, and God's provision for man's eternal existence.

A complete view of history will include the political, social, economic, cultural, technological, racial, and religious aspects of man. You must study the history of all mankind to understand fully the history of any particular civilization or country.

The character of the historian and the accuracy of his data determine the quality of a historical account. Historical data may include both archeological remains and written records.

Geography is the study of the earth's shape, movement, and relief. To a large extent, the geography of the earth determines the way people live. The geography of the United States has helped to determine the history, growth, and development of the country.

In this section of the LIFEPAC, you will learn about the Christian view of history and the contributions of ancient cultures to historiography. You will learn how the historian gathers his material. You will also learn the relationship between history and geography.

SECTION OBJECTIVES

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Define the Christian's view of history.
2. Identify the contributions of ancient civilizations.
3. Describe the elements of the historical method.
4. Give examples of the relationship between geography and man's way of life.

VOCABULARY

Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.

alluvial (u lü' vi ul). Formed by sand or mud left by flowing water.
archives (är' kīvz). Place where public records or historical documents are kept.
axis (ak' sis). Straight lines about which a geometric figure rotates.
basin (bā ' sun). The land drained by a river.
contiguous (kun tig' yu us). Adjoining or touching.
continuity (kon' tu nū' u tēi). Uninterrupted; unbroken series.
cyclical (sī' klu kul). Moving or occurring in cycles.
data (dā' tu). Facts from which conclusions can be drawn.
delta (del' tu). Triangular piece of land made by deposits of mud and sand at the mouth of a river.
distributaries (dis trib' yu ter' ēz). River branches flowing away from the main stream.
THE MEANING OF HISTORY

A clear meaning of history is necessary if one is to make sense out of human events. A proper view of history shows the unity and continuity of these events and provides answers to man’s problems. The meaning of history is derived from the definition, significance, and sense of history. Because these elements vary, the meaning of history will vary among scholars.

The definition of history. History can be defined as the past or as everything that has happened. It can also be defined as a record based on surviving or known evidence. Some individuals would define history as the writings of historians concerning important human activities. However, history is properly defined as the known story of man and his relationship to God, to mankind, and to his environment. A complete view of history will include the political, social, economic, cultural, technological, racial, and religious aspects of man.

The significance of history. History has order and meaning; it is the sum of the events that have led to the present time. The past is linked to the present and to the future. If you do not study the past, you will not be able to understand properly the present and the future. You will gain these beneficial insights from studying history:

1. Many of the contributions of ancient civilizations remain in use today. The Babylonians (1000–583 BC) have contributed ideas about law, writing, trading, and farming. They have also provided a calendar and a system of weights and measures. The Phoenicians (3000–538 BC) contributed an alphabet and the spreading of civilization to other lands. The Egyptians (2700–1090 BC) contributed a calendar, irrigation, works of art, law, astronomy, mathematics, schools, boats, embalming, and writing. The Hebrews...

2. The nature of man is constant. The Bible says (Ecclesiastes 1:9), “…There is no new thing under the sun.” The nature of man does not change. Man is as sinful today as Adam was in the Fall. The only hope for sinful man is to be made new. Second Corinthians 5:17 says, “…If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

3. History has unity and continuity. History is one continuous story beginning with the Father before Creation. It is like a river in which the water that has come down from distant mountains mingles with the water that each new branch pours in. The continuity of history means it is one continuous story, and if it is not studied from its source, including the Father before Creation, then we will not have a proper viewpoint of man’s story. You must study the history of all mankind to fully understand the history of any particular civilization or country. We are the heirs of our predecessors; our inheritance consists of ideas, institutions, and knowledge. However, the predecessors of one civilization may not be identical with those of another civilization. One group may be in the atomic age, and another may be in the stone age.

4. Man has conflicts. Man is engaged in three areas of conflict: spiritual, human, and natural. Spiritual conflicts involve man against the world, the flesh, and Satanic forces. Human conflicts involve man against his fellow man. Natural conflicts involve man against the forces of nature. Natural conflicts resulted from the Fall and act as a type of barometer of man’s spiritual well-being. The more man submits to God’s authority, the more he is able to subdue the earth.

5. God blesses those who depend on Him. The Bible says in Romans 8:28, “...All things work together for good to them that love God....” The Scriptures contain the accounts of the lives of those that love God—people such as Noah, Moses, Joshua, Elijah, Daniel, Paul, and others. These individuals loved and depended on God and He blessed their lives. You can depend on God and be blessed by Him in your life.

The sense of history. Both the Greeks and the Hebrews had a sense of history. The Greek sense of history was cyclical and was developed in the sixth century before Christ. They saw nations rise and then fall and concluded that this pattern would forever repeat itself. This view of history means that no events would be unique or new. The problem with the Greek view of history is that it was limited. They viewed history from the way it was happening then, concluding that it had no purpose. What the Greeks lacked for a proper view of history was the right point of view and a total picture of the course of human events. Both of these elements are found in the Hebrew-Christian view of history.
The Hebrews believed history was the story of man’s ultimate purpose as he related to God. To Christians, history is the record of man’s creation and fall, Christ’s redemption for sin, and God’s provision for man’s eternal existence. This view of history is called **linear** history because it has a beginning and an ultimate end. The total picture of history can be found in the Bible, the record from Creation to judgment and eternity.

The most common division of history uses the birth of Christ as the focal point. Times before His birth are called BC (before Christ), while times afterwards are called AD (Anno Domini). Modern humanists are trying to remove Christ from history. They use the term C.E. (Common Era) and BCE (Before Common Era) as substitutes; however, they are still divided by the birth of Christ.
Complete the crossword.

1.1 ACROSS
1. Historical writing based on critical methods.
2. When the sun’s center crosses the equator and day and night are of equal length everywhere.
3. Globe; round or ball-shaped object.
4. Ancestors or forefathers.

DOWN
1. Place of living; dwelling place.
2. Time of year when the sun is farthest north or farthest south of the equator.
3. A large body of ice moving slowly down a slope.
4. People who came from England to the New World for religious reasons.
5. Plural of focus; central or meeting points.
6. Broad mouth of a river into which the tide flows.
7. In a straight line.
Match these vocabulary words with their definitions.

1.2 _______ alluvial  
1.3 _______ archives  
1.4 _______ axis  
1.5 _______ basin  
1.6 _______ contiguous  
1.7 _______ continuity  
1.8 _______ cyclical  
1.9 _______ data  
1.10 _______ delta  
1.11 _______ distributaries  
1.12 _______ equator

- a. imaginary circle around the middle of the earth
- b. formed by sand or mud left by flowing water
- c. river branches flowing away from the main stream
- d. a place where public records or historical documents are kept
- e. triangular piece of land made by deposits of mud and sand at the mouth of a river
- f. straight lines about which a geometric figure rotates
- g. facts from which conclusions can be drawn
- h. the land drained by a river
- i. moving or occurring in cycles
- j. adjoining or touching
- k. uninterrupted; unbroken series

Complete these statements.

1.13 History is the known story of man and his relationship to a. ________________ , to b. ________________ , and to c. ________________________ .
1.14 A complete view of history will include several aspects of man, including a. ________________ , b. ________________ , and c. ________________ .
1.15 Among the contributions of the ancient Babylonians were a. ________________ , b. ________________ , and c. ________________________ .
1.16 Phoenicians contributed a. ________________ and b. ________________ .
1.17 The Hebrews contributed a. ________________ and b. ________________ .
THE HISTORICAL METHOD

Two primary elements determine the quality of a historical account: the historian and the data he uses. The historian must possess certain characteristics for his history to be accepted. The data used in the history must be treated carefully and purposefully to be useful.

The historian. Historians must have certain qualities of character. Of primary importance is the quality of accuracy. If the historian is not accurate, his writing cannot be relied upon. The historian must also be patient, tenacious, moral, and honest. A very difficult task for a historian is to overcome prejudice. He must erase from his mind any preconceived notions as to how something happened.

The historian must be imaginative. He must be able to imagine what happened based on the facts he has gathered. Because not all of the facts can ever be discovered, the historian must re-create some events that he believes probably happened. In gathering the facts, he must be versatile and skillful in many areas of research. Finally, the historian must be judgmental. He must take a position concerning the past and must communicate that position in his historiography.

The data. The evidence that the historian uses in historiography is called data. Data come from two sources: primary sources and secondary sources. A primary source is information from the same period as the subject being studied. A secondary source is information from a later period concerning the one under study. Libraries mostly have more secondary sources, the analysis and interpretations of other authors. Archaeological sites, museums, and archives usually have more primary sources than secondary.

Data is divided into two categories: archaeological remains and written records.

Archaeological remains may include: (1) material remains such as bones, tools, weapons,
and pottery; (2) oral traditions such as poetry, myths, legends, and songs; and (3) pictorial data such as drawings and maps.

Written records may include ancient manuscripts, treaties, diaries, books, magazines, and newspapers.

Dating the primary data is often a difficult task. Although many techniques exist for dating prehistoric material, none of them is absolutely precise. Most dating methods depend on measurements of change. For example, the salinity of the sea increases with time; the layers of sedimentation become thicker with time; the radioactivity in rock and other material decreases with time. The age of something is said to be related to how much it has changed. However, dating by measuring the amount of change in something is unreliable for two reasons. First, unless the material has been measured at the beginning of the time period, you cannot know how much it has changed to the present. Second, the rate of change of any material is not constant. Therefore, the dates assigned to the earth and its prehistoric archaeological remains should be considered as estimates only.

When the historian tests the genuineness of his data, he must decide if it is accurate, authentic, complete, and reliable. He tests his data against other data, against “outside information,” to determine their genuineness. If he is testing written documents, he must also examine “inside information.” The meaning and accuracy of a document is determined by studying its language, the integrity of its author, and its correspondence with reliable evidence on the same subject. After the genuineness of his data has been determined, the author tries to present the facts as they happened.

Write true or false.

1.27 __________ Many absolute techniques exist for dating prehistoric material.
1.28 __________ The historian must test his data against both outside and inside information.
1.29 __________ The historian must sometimes use his imagination to help tell the story of the past.
1.30 __________ Libraries usually contain only primary sources.
1.31 __________ Dates assigned to the earth and to its prehistoric remains are only estimates.
1.32 __________ Prehistoric material changes at a constant and predictable rate.
1.33 __________ The principal elements that determine the quality of an historical account are the character of the historian and the accuracy of his data.
Complete these statements.

1.34 Information from the same period as the subject is a ______________________________ source of historical data.

1.35 Information from a later period concerning the period being studied is called a __________ ________________ source.

1.36 Historical data are divided into two categories: a. ________________________________ remains and b. ________________________________ records.

1.37 Historians must be characterized as being a. ________________________________ , b. ________________________________ , c. ________________________________ , d. ________________________________ , and e. ________________________________ .

1.38 Written records that are valuable to historians include a. ________________________________ , b. ________________________________ , c. ________________________________ , and d. ________________________________ .

THE GEOGRAPHY OF THE EARTH

Geography is the study of the earth's surface, climate, continents, countries, people, industries, and products. The geography of the earth largely determines the way we live. Geography can be divided into several classes:

1. Physical geography: the study of the physical features of the earth and their effect on man.


3. Climatology: the study of average weather.

4. Economic geography: the study of man's economic activities over the earth's surface.


6. Political geography: the study of the relation of the landforms to governments.
Review the material in this section to prepare for the Self Test. The Self Test will check your mastery of this section. The items missed on this test will indicate specific areas where restudy is needed for mastery.

**SELF TEST 1**

**Match these terms** (each answer, 2 points).

1.01 ______ Mariana Trench    a. study of average weather
1.02 ______ primary source     b. used in mapping airplane routes
1.03 ______ secondary source   c. lowest point of earth's surface
1.04 ______ longitude         d. lines extending east and west
1.05 ______ delta              e. information from the same period as the one being studied
1.06 ______ climatology       f. imaginary circle around the middle of the earth
1.07 ______ equinox            g. information from a period later than the one being studied
1.08 ______ interrupted-area projection    h. may contain pottery, tools, bones
1.09 ______ archaeological remains i. lines extending from the North Pole to the South Pole
1.10 ______ equator           j. has blank spaces
1.11 ______ latitude          k. triangular piece of land at the mouth of a river
1.12 ______ polar projection  l. nights are twelve hours long
1.029 The 180th meridian is the International Date Line.
1.030 The West was the scene of the Civil War.
1.031 The cities of the fall line were established where the Mississippi River comes out of the Rocky Mountains.

Complete these activities (each answer, 3 points).

1.032 Ancient civilizations that made valuable contributions to history include the:
   a. __________________________
   b. ___________________________
   c. __________________________
   d. ___________________________.

1.033 The highest point in the U.S., Mount a. __________________________, and the lowest point, b. __________________________ Valley, are in the c. __________________________ region.

1.034 Two revolutions occurred in the Northeast: the a. __________________________ War and the b. __________________________ Revolution.

Write true or false (each answer, 1 point).

1.035 Early Spanish explorers in the South and West were seeking wealth rather than new homes.
1.036 The North American Plains is one of the three major plains areas in the world.
1.037 The Mercator projection, using lines of latitude, is helpful in determining directions.
1.038 Archives usually contain primary sources for the historian, and libraries usually contain secondary sources.
1.039 The essential nature of man has remained the same from the Fall to the present time.
1.040 Man is engaged in spiritual, human, and natural areas of conflict.