

Natural Environment GEOGRAPHY 141

Chapter 1

ALL Spatial questions: **WHERE** is location? **WHAT** are characteristics? **WHY/how** it functions?

SYSTEMS - difference of open and closed systems; able to explain the basic parts of a system

System feedback loops = positive and negative

Explain steady-state equilibrium; dynamic equilibrium threshold

Models are idealized and simplified representation of the real world (maps, globes, diagrams)

Understand location and geographic grid. Latitude/Longitude; degrees, minutes and seconds.

Parallels/meridians; Know Regions of tropics, sub-tropics, mid latitudes, sub-arctic etc.

Prime Meridian, International Date Line, Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn; SCALE (Reference Factor RF), What is GIS, GPS, Remote Sensing

Exogenic vs Endogenic Notes from Video "Magnetic Storm"

Chapter 2

SOLAR SYSTEM AND EARTH'S ENERGY What? Where? Why?

Thermo-nuclear energy created by Hydrogen FUSION -Exogenic

Solar Wind, Solar insolation

Earth's magnetic field (nova Magnetic Storm notes) (what where why?)

Aurora Borealis, Aurora Australis (where & why?)

Short Wave and Long-wave **fig 2.8**

Wave-length and frequency **Fig 2.5**

Short wave lengths respectively (Gamma, X-rays, ultra violet, visible spectrum, near infrared, shortwave infrared), Long wave (middle infrared Thermal Infrared, Microwave, radio-tv) **See fig 2.6:** and know the sequence but not the micron or numbers.

Sub-solar point: What is it and where is it different times of the year concerning Solstices & Equinoxes

SEASONALITY 2.14

ATMOSPHERE make-up (major gases) **Fig 2.20**

COMPOSITION- **Fig. 2.18** homosphere heterosphere -what are they what do they represent?

TEMPERATURE layers in order (not altitude)

Normal lapse rates and inverted lapse rates of each Temp layer

FUNCTIONAL layers IONOSPHERE 2.23 OZONOSPHERE Where? What? and Why?

Ozone = O₃ Three oxygen molecules weakly bound

CFC's Chloro-fluoro-carbons and role in atmosphere; Residence time? Affect on UV? Affect on Ozone?

Natural and anthropogenic pollutants. Be able to name a few

Chapter 3 Temperature and Global Energy

Flow of Energy and Pathways fig 3.1 3.10 What are they and explain? Where & why they occur?

Earth system balance = Transmission IN and OUT

Earth - Atmosphere energy budget in general.

Transmission and pathways of wavelengths via= Scattering Refraction Reflection, Albedo rates fig. 3.5 do not memorize albedo rates but understand main points.

Absorption is a conversion process

Conduction; Convection; Advection and think about operation with liquids gas and solids

Types of Heat *Sensible - Specific - Latent*

What is latent heat? Review Ch 2 pg 44 fig 2.7 Absorption of solar insolation.

Major Controls on Temperature: Latitude, Elevation, Cloud cover and Land/Water heating differences

Greenhouse Effect; Green house forcing and Cloud cover; Jet contrails effect from 9/11

Diurnal temperature pattern; Landmass vs. Water affects climate locations on earth.

Water transparency and transmission (convection and conduction processes of absorption)

specific heat and land and water differences; Continental Effect vs Marine Effects on temperature.

See graphs and be able to read graphs and discuss effects and differences.

Be able to calculate slope on a topographic maps. Topographic contour lines.

Chapter 4

Circulation Patterns transfer and distribute energy and heat

WINDS and OCEAN CURRENTS are instrumental in troposphere.

AIR PRESSURE= WEIGHT OF ATMOSPHERE; VARIES PLACE TO PLACE fig 4.2 measured in Millibars

Differences in pressure cause wind

Pressure gradient determine s wind speed fig. 4.7 4.8

LOW PRESSURE: Rising, cooling, likely precip. density increases, converging at surface,

HIGH PRESSURE: descending, divergent at surface, warms, expands, light wind, potential to evaporate

MIXING due to uneven pressure causing advection and convection

Largest scale of pressure gradient force is equator to pole (hottest to coldest).

Winter is most dynamic when pressure gradient is steepest. Warm air aloft pulls cold air along surface.

CORIOLIS FORCE 4.8.

DEFLECTS AIR OR FLUID FROM A STRAIGHT PATH; the momentum changes with latitude

Know location and why Easterlies (aka Trade Winds) Westerlies; directions of high and low pressure movement in hemispheres and cyclone anti-cyclone directions

FRICTION – mountain and topography create friction.

Hadley Cell (convection cell) important to energy mixing. Understand parts, why they shift and how they work.

ITCZ where? What? and why?

Subtropical high pressure where ? what? and why?

JET STREAM Upper Troposphere=direction and characteristics that effect us.

Trough and Ridges of jet stream (see Rosby waves figure to visualize).

Local winds: Onshore and offshore breeze ; valley wind; monsoon and ITCZ

SURFACE WINDS push **Ocean surface currents 4.21**

Know where and the direction of current (gyres) on a world map. Find/ place them in the major ocean basins Atlantic and Pacific Oceans (north Atlantic Basin, South Atlantic Basin, North Pacific Basin and South Pacific Basin

North Equatorial Currents South Equatorial Currents Gulf Stream North Pacific Current; Kuroshi or (Japan Current) Peru Current, California Current, Brazilian Current Benguela Current (off Western Africa)

DEEP CURENTS Thermohaline currents; upwelling, Downwelling cyclic time?