

EXAM INFORMATION

This exam was developed to enable schools to award credit to students for knowledge equivalent to that learned by students taking the course. This examination includes content related to the Earth and basic facts (maps, physiography, atmosphere, soils and vegetation, water); culture and environment; settlement patterns; political and regional geography.

The exam contains 100 questions to be answered in 2 hours.

Form Codes: SN470. SP470. SY562. SZ562

CREDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

The American Council on Education's College Credit Recommendation Service (ACE CREDIT) has evaluated the DSST test development process and content of this exam. It has made the following recommendations:

Area or Course Equivalent: Human/Cultural Geography

Level: Lower-level baccalaureate

Amount of Credit: 3 Semester Hours

Minimum Score: 400

Source: www.acenet.edu

EXAM CONTENT OUTLINE

The following is an outline of the content areas covered in the examination. The approximate percentage of the examination devoted to each content area is also noted.

- I. **The Earth, Basic Facts and Concepts – 20%**
 - a. Seasons, time
 - b. Maps and cartography
 - c. Coordinate systems
 - d. Physiography
 - e. Atmosphere
 - f. Soils and vegetation
 - g. Water
- II. **Culture and Environment – 35%**
 - a. Cultural systems and processes
 - b. Population
 - c. Natural resources
- III. **Spatial Processes – 30%**
 - a. Social processes
 - b. Modern economic systems
 - c. Settlement patterns
 - d. Political geography
 - e. Social problems
- IV. **Regional Geography – 15%**
 - a. Defining a region
 - b. Geopolitical regions
 - c. Globalization

REFERENCES

Below is a list of reference publications that were either used as a reference to create the exam, or were used as textbooks in college courses of the same or similar title at the time the test was developed. You may reference either the current edition of these titles or textbooks currently used at a local college or university for the same class title. It is recommended that you reference more than one textbook on the topics outlined in this fact sheet.

You should begin by checking textbook content against the content outline provided before selecting textbooks that cover the test content from which to study.

Sources for study material are suggested but not limited to the following:

1. Christopherson, Robert W. (2011). *Geosystems: An Introduction to Physical Geography*. Prentice Hall, 8th Ed. 2.
 2. De Blij, H.J. & Murphy, Alexander B. *Human Geography: Culture, Society and Space*. New York, NY: Wiley and Sons, 7th Ed.
 3. De Blij, H.J., Muller, P.O., Burt, J.E., & Mason, J.A. *Physical Geography: The Global Environment*. New York, NY: Wiley and Sons, 4th Ed.
 4. Fellman, Jerome, Getis, A., & Getis, J. *Human Geography: Landscape of Human Activities*. Boston, MA: WCB/McGraw Hill, 12th Ed.
 5. Fouberg, E.H., Murphy, A.B., & de Blij, H.J. *Human Geography: People, Place and Culture*. 10th Ed.
 6. Veregin, Howard (ed.). *Goode's World Atlas*. Rand McNally, 22nd Ed.
-

SAMPLE QUESTIONS

All test questions are in a multiple-choice format, with one correct answer and three incorrect options. The following are samples of the types of questions that may appear on the exam.

1. Which stage in the demographic transition is characterized by high, steady birth rates combined with decreasing death rates?
 - a. Rapid growth
 - b. Slow growth
 - c. No growth
 - d. Decline
2. A landscape that is pitted with depressions, has a stream passing underground into a cavern, and has several large underground caves is an example of which of the following?
 - a. Kettle and kame
 - b. Horst and graben
 - c. Karst
 - d. Outwash plain
3. Which of the following is equivalent to a scale of one inch equals one mile?
 - a. 1: 13,360
 - b. 1: 23,360
 - c. 1: 63,360
 - d. 1: 93,360
4. Which of the following is NOT an example of a centrifugal force in political geography?
 - a. Basques in Spain
 - b. Palestinians in Lebanon
 - c. Quebecois in Canada
 - d. African Americans in the United States
5. A well-known advocate of "hearths of domestication" for plants and animals is
 - a. Richard Hartshorne
 - b. Carl O. Sauer
 - c. Brian J.L. Berry

- d. Walter Christaller
6. Three types of world economic systems are
 - a. socialism, communism, and democracy
 - b. plantation, commercial, and planned
 - c. subsistence, commercial, and planned
 - d. shifting cultivation, swidden, and subsistence
 7. According to the core-periphery model, a megalopolis is a
 - a. core region
 - b. upward-transition region
 - c. resource-frontier region
 - d. downward-transition region
 8. All of the following are considered examples of west-coast desert EXCEPT the
 - a. Namib Desert
 - b. Gobi Desert
 - c. Atacama Desert
 - d. Great Sandy Desert
 9. Which of the following is true of the population density in North American cities?
 - a. It is greatest at the center and gradually decreases toward the suburbs.
 - b. It gradually increases from the center to the suburbs.
 - c. It is low at the center, highest outside the center, with decreases toward the suburbs.
 - d. It is relatively uniform throughout the city.
 10. Which of the following nation states is NOT a member of OPEC?
 - a. Nigeria
 - b. Saudi Arabia
 - c. Libya
 - d. Mexico

Answers to sample questions:

1-A; 2-C; 3-C; 4-D; 5-B; 6-C; 7-A; 8-B; 9-C; 10-D