

KNOWLEDGE MAPPING

6TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

1. The 7 continents are North America, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Antarctica.
2. Four major oceans are Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, and Arctic.
3. The **Equator**, at 0°, runs east and west, dividing the earth into the northern and southern hemispheres.
4. Running north and south, at 0°, the **Prime Meridian** divides the earth into eastern and western hemispheres.
5. **Absolute location** is a specific place designated by **longitude** and **latitude**.
6. **Longitude** lines run north and south but measure east and west of the Prime Meridian.
7. **Latitude** lines run east and west but measure north and south of the Equator.
8. **Relative location** is the location of a place in relation to other places.
9. Global **interdependence** exists because of trade among nations of the world.
10. **Goods and services**, which are **imported** and **exported**, lead to interdependence.
11. **Specialization** occurs when countries produce what can be traded at the lowest opportunity cost.
12. **Supply** and **demand** helps set the **market clearing price** for goods and services.
13. **Consumption** is the purchase or usage of goods and services; **production** combines natural resources, human resources, capital goods, and entrepreneurship to create goods and services.
14. A **Democracy** is a form of government in which people participate by casting a vote for people or issues.
15. A **Monarchy** is a system of government headed by a birthright king or queen; a **Constitutional Monarchy** allows for elections.
16. A **Dictatorship** is a form of government headed by a person who takes command by force with no elections.
17. To obtain information, resources can include: **atlas, almanac, textbook, gazetteer, periodicals, and electronic sources**.
18. A **region** is an area of land with similar characteristics, such as religion, language, culture, or landforms.
19. **Location** (water, desert, mountains, climate, vegetation) influences where and how people live.
20. Information comes from **primary** and **secondary** sources.
21. A **bibliography** is a list of sources used to write a paper.

EARLY CIVILIZATIONS

22. **Paleolithic** people **hunted and gathered**, made tools, and used fire.
23. **Agriculture** (farming) began in the **Neolithic** Era as people **domesticated** plants and animals, formed **governments**, and organized **settlements**.
24. Early **civilizations** developed along rivers for food, transportation, irrigation, and trade.

25. **Culture** includes beliefs regarding class structure, gender, customs, and traditions. (social classes – Mesopotamia and Egypt)
26. **Interaction** between people contributes to **cooperation** or **conflict**. (early people lived in nomadic groups/clans; first human settlements)
27. **Environment** influences the way people live in different places; **modifying (changing)** the environment has different consequences. (irrigation, farming methods, desertification)
28. A **civilization** is an area where people have established a **government** to make rules and provide rights for its citizens.
29. Early civilizations made contributions to later civilizations including government, religion, agriculture, science, and culture.

MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA

30. **Time lines** show relationships among people, dates, and events; these are shown by **BC** and **AD** (Before Christ and Anno Domini) or **BCE** (Before Common Era) and **CE** (Common Era).
30. A **multiple-tier** timeline shows events in chronological order from two or more related categories.
31. **Uneven distribution** of natural resources is a cause for world trade (oil)
32. Early civilizations made contributions to later civilizations including government, religion, agriculture, science, and culture. (wheel, plow, writing, law, irrigation, calendar, etc.)
33. **Christianity, Judaism, and Islam** are three major world religions which began in Middle East.
34. **Conflict** or **cooperation** can be caused by language, religion, government, history, and/or **economics**. (religious differences; Israel's role in Middle East)
35. Early river civilizations included those along the **Tigris, Euphrates, Nile, Huang Ho, and Indus River Valleys**.
36. People, products, and ideas move from place to place. (rivers encouraged trade)
37. **Push** and **pull** factors cause people to **migrate** (move).
38. **Productive resources** (factors of production) and **entrepreneurship** affect production of goods and services.
39. Governments exist to protect lives, **liberty** (freedom), and property and to provide services that individuals cannot provide for themselves.
40. **Rights** are entitlements by law or tradition; **responsibilities** are conditions or tasks for which one is accountable or answerable.
41. Countries may claim to be **sovereign** (in control of) over other territories (countries). (European influence in Africa)
42. Some countries may be divided into **states** or **provinces**.

ASIA

43. **Hinduism**, which is polytheistic, and **Buddhism**, are major world religions, founded in Asia.
44. **Human settlements/activities** are influenced by environmental factors and processes in different **regions** including bodies of water, landforms, climate, vegetations, weathering and seismic activity. (Ring of Fire)

45. Human **migration** in Asia is influenced by **urbanization, desertification, and deforestation.**
46. Humans **modified** the environment, with **positive** and **negative consequences** through energy production, different methods of agriculture, dam building and urban growth. (Three Gorges Dam, terrace farming)
47. People migrated because of **push and pull** factors, such as the Silk Road, which impacted **world trade.**
48. Economic decisions involve **trade-offs.**
49. Trade occurs when people, regions, and countries **specialize.**
50. Countries become **interdependent** when **goods** and **services** are **imported** and **exported.** (rice and tea)
51. Communism in China (public sector) recently allowed citizens (private sector) to own businesses. (opening up trade/markets)
52. Some countries in Asia, under **Communism** or a dictatorship, inhibit human rights and freedoms. (China, India, North Korea)
53. India's former **caste system** still influences roles, business, and lifestyles today. (**class structure**)
54. Women in India and China were once less valued in society, but now have more rights and opportunities including voting and employment. (**gender roles, citizenship rights**)

AFRICA

55. The earliest people originated in Africa 2.3 million years ago.
56. The Sahara and Kalahari Deserts are moving closer to each other each year because of **desertification.**
57. **Desertification** is caused by wind, deforestation, overgrazing, and over planting.
58. The influence of Europeans hindered/halted the development of African societies and cultural practices. (language, customs, religions)
59. Because of geographical barriers, Europeans had difficulties transporting natural resources such as gold and diamonds. (mining)
60. **Oppression** of the African people was caused by the Europeans and the slave trade and political issues (Apartheid)
61. Language differences, political conflict, drought, famine, disease (HIV), and jobs explain **push and pull factors** in African countries.

LATIN AMERICA (includes Mexico, Central America, and South America)

62. At the end of the Ice Age (8000 B.C.), prehistoric Indians migrated on foot across the Bering Strait ice bridge to North America and later, South America.
63. The major civilizations in Central and South American included the Aztecs, Incas, and Mayas.
64. The Mayans began about 2500 B.C., followed by the Aztec and Inca.
65. Latin America has a wide range of environments and resources.
66. **Physical geography**, such as the **Amazon Rain Forest** and the **Andes Mts.**, influences Latin America's cultures, offering both **resources** and **obstacles.** (paved stone roads united region)

67. The Maya contributed the concept of zero, a 365 day solar calendar, and written language (hieroglyphics)
68. **Language** is a **common cultural connection** in Latin America that defines it as a **region**. (Spanish)
69. Inca Empire widely spread because of roads and runner systems for **communication**.
70. Aztec farmers were able to construct floating gardens in the swamps. (chinampas)
71. Important crops include maize, sweet potatoes, cotton, squash, rubber, cacao beans (chocolate)
72. Mexico City, because of geographical features (mountains)/location, faces problems with air pollution and earthquakes. (built on dry lake bed)
73. Spanish settlers conquered the Aztecs. (influence remains today)
74. Most of Latin America lies within the tropics; however, it is influenced by elevation, location, winds, and warm ocean currents. (*El Niño*)
75. Central America's economies rely on agriculture and tourism; while industry involving world trade relies on the use of the Panama Canal.

EUROPE

76. Geographical features of Europe contributed to the development of different cultures. (Mediterranean Sea, Danube and Volga Rivers, Alps and Ural Mountains.)
77. Europe's temperate climate benefits its agricultural and tourist industries. (rich soil, plentiful rainfall, moderate temperatures)
78. The **Gulf Stream** brings warm air and water to Europe; however the winters are severe in the mountains and northern Europe.
79. The natural resources of Europe affect what it produces today. (coal, iron ore)
80. The **Great European Plain** is the location of some of the world's richest farmland; many ancient trading centers were started as a result. (Paris, Berlin, Warsaw and Moscow)
81. **Nationalism, colonialism, and empire building** led to conflicts among European nations. (**diplomacy, treaties, international meetings and exchanges, military conflicts**).
82. The **United Nations** was created to foster peace and cooperation among the nations of the world.
83. Many Western European nations became **constitutional monarchies** (king and queen) serving with a ruling body of elected officials.