**AP Human Geography**

**Chapter 11**

**Agriculture and Rural Land Use**

1. Why have farmers in western South Dakota started to grow soybeans instead of cattle ranching?

2. Why is there an increase in planting GMOs and organic agriculture? Why is it a paradox?

3. Why has organic agriculture increased its share of total agricultural sales since 1980? Where is most organic food stuffs sold? What are the business reasons why a farmer would convert their fields from conventional farming to organic farming?

4. What are the benefits to organic farming?

5. What is the definition of agriculture?

6. Describe the different economic sectors and give 2-3 examples for each category.

7. What is the trend with respect to percent of the labor force engaged in primary activities in LDCs vs. MDCs?

8. What is the trend since 1950 in the United States with respect to the percentage off the labor force engaged in primary activities?

9. How has the mechanization of agriculture in the United States changed the business of farming?

10. What are the major concerns with regard to food security – why is this a growing concern worldwide?

11. What is the difference between seed and root crops? According to Carl Sauer where did the agriculture most likely begin?

12. Make a “T” chart listing the primary and secondary agricultural hearths.

13. Describe the symbiotic relationship between the domestication of plants and animals.

14. What is the definition of subsistence agriculture, and why did it start to decline after 1900?

15. Define shifting cultivation – what are some of the basic step in the process, and where today is this form of agriculture still practiced?

16. How did governments contribute to the expansion of the Second Agricultural Revolution?

17. Describe the new technologies that contributed to the Second Agricultural Revolution.

18. What new breeding techniques were used during the Second Agricultural Revolution?

19. How did innovations in machinery help sustain the Second Agricultural Revolution?

20. What were the critical factors that spurred ach of the first three Agricultural Revolutions?

21. What characterizes the Third Agricultural Revolution, and when did it begin?

22. Define the Green Revolution – how did it start?

23. Make a “T” for the Green Revolution listing the advantages and disadvantages.

24. How has the shift from subsistence to commercial agriculture impacted land-use patterns, land ownership arrangements and agricultural labor conditions?

25. How did European colonization impact subsistence farming?

26. Define the township-range system, metes-and-bounds survey, and long-lot system. Where do these land use patterns still exist today? How do you think the township-range system contributed to dispersed rural settlement patterns in the United States?

27. Why are most rural settlements throughout the world clustered?

28. How do most people live today?

29. How has NAFTA contributed to increased immigration from Mexico?

30. Define the term commercial agriculture. What are some categories of commercial agriculture?

31. Describe the relationship between commercial agricultural categories and world climate regions.

32. What is a monoculture – what are the advantages and disadvantages to this practice?

33. What impact has the improvements in transportation and food storage had on the geography of commercial agriculture?

34. What is a cash crop? What are some of the world’s major cash crops and where are they grown?

35. What is plantation agriculture, and where does it still exist? What plantation products do you consume?

36. Where i the world do commercial livestock, fruit and grain agriculture occur? What is the relationship between these categories of agriculture and the climate region?

37. What are the differences between livestock ranching and commercial livestock?

38. Where does intensive subsistence -agriculture still dominate?

39. Describe Mediterranean agricultural practices and crops grown.

40. What are some of the most widely grown drug crops, and why would a farmer choose to grow drug crops instead of legal crops?

41. What is informal agriculture, and what are some of the primary examples of this unique form of agriculture?

42. What are the three main ways that governments influence agricultural production and output?

43. Describe how market forces influence agriculture – give examples.

44. What is agribusiness, and how is it changing the geography of agriculture – give examples?

45. Use Figure 11.21 on page 340 to help you answer the Chicken FRQ from 2004!

46. Describe some of the examples in the book that deal with the environmental impacts of commercial agriculture.

47. What areas of the United States are most at risk to losing high quality farm land? Why?

48. What is a food desert, and describe the forces at play between urban and rural food deserts?