In this section you will read about the major geographic features of South and Southeast Asia, and how these features have affected its people and history.

**THINK ABOUT IT**

Look at the maps of South and Southeast Asia on this and the next page. Can you name two countries in each of these areas?

**SOUTH ASIA**

1. 

2. 

**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

1. 

2. 

**Important Terms:** As you read this section, look for the following terms:

- Subcontinent
- Himalayas
- Ganges River
- Monsoons

---

**SIZE AND LOCATION**

**SOUTH ASIA**

Most of South Asia is a subcontinent (a large piece of land smaller than a continent). The Indian subcontinent looks like a large triangle jutting out of Asia, pointing into the Indian Ocean. India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, and several smaller countries, make up this region.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

Southeast Asia is made up of a large peninsula (land surrounded by water on three sides) on the southeast corner of the Asian mainland, and several island nations. The peninsula includes Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. The island nations include Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.
MAJOR GEOGRAPHIC FEATURES AND THEIR EFFECTS

MOUNTAINS
◆ The Himalayas, the highest mountains in the world, separate the Indian subcontinent from the rest of Asia. As a result, people on both sides of the Himalayas developed their own separate languages, customs and cultures. Despite these high mountains, India was invaded several times through the northwest mountain passes.

RIVERS AND RIVER VALLEYS
As in Africa and the Middle East, the earliest civilizations of South Asia and Southeast Asia developed in river valleys, like the Indus and Ganges river valleys in India. The Ganges River is considered holy by Hindus, the largest religious group in India. They believe that washing in this river can remove their sins and gain them rewards in the next life. In Southeast Asia, the Mekong and the Irrawaddy rivers serve as water routes.

CLIMATE
Both South and Southeast Asia have warm winters and hot summers. The most important feature of the climate are the monsoons. Monsoons are winds that bring heavy rains in the summer. They have both good and bad effects. The rain waters the crops and helps support life in the region. However, if they bring too much rain, the monsoons cause flooding, property damage and death.
RESOURCES
Western nations have long looked upon the lands of South and Southeast Asia as rich sources of spices, teas, rice, and tropical wood. These resources attracted imperialist nations, which conquered or colonized the area.

IMPORTANT LOCATION
Southeast Asia provides the shortest trade route between the Pacific and Indian Oceans. From the earliest times, people have passed through the area — as travelers, merchants or invaders. Therefore, Southeast Asia has been affected by the mix of peoples coming to the region, resulting in a culture that has been heavily influenced by the Indians and the Chinese.

SUMMING UP: GEOGRAPHY
Most of South Asia is a subcontinent; India forms its largest part. Southeast Asia consists of a large peninsula. The Himalayas, the highest mountains in the world, and the monsoons, the winds which bring heavy rains to the area in summer, are two geographic features which have had the greatest effect on South and Southeast Asia.

THINKING IT OVER
What do you think is the most important geographic feature of the region? ___________________________ Explain why: ___________________________

CHECKING YOUR UNDERSTANDING
Directions: Complete the following cards. Then answer the multiple choice questions that follow.
In this section you will read about the historical developments in South and Southeast Asia, from their earliest civilizations to their achievement of independence from European imperialism.
India has been called "a land of foreign invaders." Why do you think it was so named?

Important Terms: As you read this section, look for the following terms:

- "Divide and Conquer"
- Sepoy Mutiny
- Passive resistance
- Civil disobedience
- Genocide
- Vietnam War

— SOUTH ASIA —

AN EARLY CENTER OF CIVILIZATION
More than 5000 years ago, the Indus River Valley in northeast India was one of the earliest centers of human civilization. Throughout its history, India's wealth was the reason for frequent invasions. About 1,000 B.C., the Aryan peoples invaded and established the Hindu religion and the caste system.

CLASSICAL AGE OF HINDU CULTURE (321 B.C. - 500 A.D.)
During this 800-year period, India was united under the Maurya and Gupta Empires. This period is known as the classical period of Hindu civilization. It was famed for its important developments in the arts, literature, sciences, and mathematics (development of the decimal point and the concept of zero).

MUSLIM RULE (700-1760)
About 1,300 years ago, Muslims invaded and took control over most of India. These Muslims, called Mughals, united India by the 1550s. They made important contributions to Indian culture. For example, Muslims built the Taj Mahal, one of the world's most famous architectural achievements. The domes of the Taj Mahal show the influence of Islam on Indian art—an important example of cultural diffusion.

_Pictured at right: The Taj Mahal. Its construction, begun in 1632, took almost 20 years and 20,000 workers to complete._

INDIA UNDER BRITISH RULE

THE BRITISH GAIN CONTROL
By the early 1700s, the British, who were interested in Indian foodstuffs and cloth, established trading posts. Over time, the British gained control over India by following a policy of "divide and conquer."
Under this policy, the British maintained friendship with some states, while using force against other states. This prevented the Indian states from uniting against British rule. However, a few uprisings were carried out against British control. In 1857, during the Sepoy Mutiny, a group of sepoys (Indian soldiers in the British Army in India) rose up against their British officers. The British government put down this revolt, using it as an excuse to take official control of India.

**CHANGES UNDER BRITISH RULE**

During the two centuries of British rule, life in India changed a great deal.

- **Government.** The British united India under one government and system of law, similar to Great Britain’s.

- **Economic Development.** The British built roads, bridges and railroads, and set up telegraph wires.

- **Employment.** Many Indians found jobs working for the British government. However, those who had earned a living making products in their homes lost their jobs, as people began to buy cloth and other goods made in English factories. Other Indians worked long hours for low wages under terrible conditions, to serve their British rulers.

- **Social Changes.** Schools and hospitals were built. However, the subjects taught in the schools were those which the British thought were important, such as the English language. In general, Indians and Indian culture were treated as inferior to the British.

**INDIAN INDEPENDENCE**

British rule gradually stirred strong feelings of nationalism among the Indian people, who began to look for ways to gain their independence.

**THE INDIAN NATIONALIST MOVEMENT**

Mohandas Gandhi was a leader in the struggle for Indian independence. He believed that violence should not be used to achieve independence from the powerful British. Instead, Gandhi urged Indians to use the non-violent, peaceful methods of passive resistance and civil disobedience.

- **Passive Resistance.** Gandhi developed a policy known as passive resistance. He told his followers that rather than fight back when the British tried to enforce their laws, they should peacefully suffer beatings and violence. Gandhi believed that this would gain world attention and lead to increased support for the cause of Indian independence. Eventually the British would see their mistakes and, Gandhi hoped, they would withdraw peacefully.

- **Civil Disobedience.** Gandhi advised Indians to use civil disobedience to protest unjust British laws. He instructed his followers to disobey laws with fasts, marches, sit-ins and strikes. He pro-
tested the British salt tax by making a famous “march to the sea.” He encouraged people to boycott (refuse to buy) British goods, and to buy only items made locally.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN (1947)
World War II (1939-1945) weakened the British a great deal. As a result of Gandhi’s efforts and its own weakness, Great Britain decided to grant India its independence after the war. However, it soon became obvious that India’s Hindu and Muslim populations could not get along peacefully. Gandhi wanted a unified India, but Muslim leaders wanted to set up their own state. Therefore, in 1947 when the British granted India its independence, they made two separate nations—India and Pakistan—out of the former British colony. Since religious differences were the main cause of violence, the division was made along religious lines: India became a Hindu nation and Pakistan a Muslim nation. Millions of Indians had to move from their homes to India or Pakistan, depending on their religion. Thousands of Muslims and Hindus were killed in the riots that followed. Religious differences between the two groups have created much bitterness.

SOUTH ASIA SINCE INDEPENDENCE

INDIA
After independence, India became the leader of a group of non-aligned nations—countries that refused to become allies of either the Western democracies or the Communist nations. India still stands as a leader of the countries of the developing world.

PAKISTAN
When Pakistan was established in 1947, it consisted of two parts: one on the east and the other on the west side of India, separated by 1000 miles. Ethnic differences between the people in the eastern and western parts of Pakistan led to fighting. In 1971, the people in the eastern part of Pakistan broke away from the western part of Pakistan to form a new nation called Bangladesh.

BANGLADESH
Bangladesh is one of the world’s poorest nations. Since its independence in 1971, it has been suffering from over-population and flooding. Bangladesh is the most densely populated nation in the world, with over 120 million people in an area the size of New York State. Melting snows from the Himalayan Mountains often cause severe flooding, which results in the destruction of crops, property loss and death.
--- SOUTHEAST ASIA ---

A REGION WITH MANY INFLUENCES

Separate river valley kingdoms (for example, Vietnam, Burma and Laos) existed in Southeast Asia thousands of years ago. This region was strongly influenced by both Indian and Chinese culture. Other parts of the area, such as Indonesia, were affected by Islamic culture. Beginning in the 1500s, attracted by spices found in the area, European imperial powers began to take colonies in Southeast Asia.

INDEPENDENCE AND WAR

During World War II, Japan occupied most of Southeast Asia, driving out the European powers. Once the war was over, the Europeans returned. However, a spirit of nationalism took hold in the region. In the years following the war the people of Southeast Asia struggled to obtain their independence.

VIETNAM

After Japan’s defeat, France tried to take back control of its colonies in Southeast Asia. In Vietnam, nationalists led by Ho Chi Minh defeated the French by 1954. Vietnam was then divided in two — a Communist North Vietnam and a non-Communist South. Attempts to reunite the country failed. The North Vietnamese Communists (Vietcong) attempted to take over South Vietnam, which led to the Vietnam War. Troops from the United States, South Vietnam, and their allies attempted to stop the spread of Communism, but the South Vietnamese government was unpopular and foreign attempts to save it did not work. In 1973, a peace agreement led to the withdrawal of U.S. troops, and in 1975, Vietnam was reunited under Communist rule.

CAMBODIA (Kampuchea)

The withdrawal of U.S. forces from Vietnam led to the collapse of the neighboring government in Cambodia. In 1975, local Communists called the Khmer Rouge took control of Cambodia, turning it into a Communist nation. A policy of genocide (mass murder) was carried out by the new government. People suspected of not supporting the Communist cause were murdered. It is estimated that over 4 million Cambodians were killed for this reason. In 1978, Vietnam invaded Cambodia, and forced the Khmer Rouge government out of power.

THE PHILIPPINES

The Philippines, a U.S. colony since 1898, achieved independence in 1946. Ferdinand Marcos was elected President in 1965. He established stability but

Opened grave pits of victims of the Khmer Rouge
proved to be a dishonest leader who used government money to make himself rich. In 1986, he was defeated in a democratic election by Corazon Aquino. Aquino attempted to restore democracy and to solve such problems as widespread poverty and unemployment. She left office in 1992.

**ANALYSIS**

What do you think are some of the major problems facing newly independent countries?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

**SUMMING UP: HISTORY**

The Indus River Valley of India was one of the early centers of civilization. During its long history, India has been invaded and controlled by foreign groups several times. Led by Mohandas Gandhi, India achieved independence after World War II, which led to the creation of two separate nations, Hindu India and Muslim Pakistan. Southeast Asia also has been the object of foreign control. After gaining independence, some Southeast Asian nations set up Communist governments.

**THINKING IT OVER**

Now add to or correct your statement about why India has been called “a land of foreign invaders”:

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

**CHECKING YOUR UNDERSTANDING**

Directions: Complete the following cards. Then answer the multiple choice questions that follow.

**“DIVIDE AND CONQUER”**

Define: _____________________________________________________________

Results: _____________________________________________________________

**SEPOY MUTINY**

Describe it: __________________________________________________________

Importance: __________________________________________________________
PASSIVE RESISTANCE

Define: __________________________
Example: ________________________

VIETNAM WAR

Causes: __________________________
Results: __________________________

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

What is it? ________________________
Example: _________________________

GENOCIDE

Define: __________________________
Example: _________________________

1 A study of India's history shows that the Muslim and the British were similar in that both
1 were foreign invaders
2 supported India’s independence
3 opposed imperialism
4 were defeated by India

2 Two countries, India and Pakistan, were formed from the single British colony of India mainly because of
1 religious and cultural differences
2 demands made by the Soviet Union
3 geographic factors making it easier to have two nations
4 demands made by the United Nations

3 Which development came last?
1 India and Pakistan were partitioned
2 the Sepoy Mutiny broke out
3 Bangladesh was established
4 the British colonized India

4 The term “passive resistance” means
1 violent uprisings against the government
2 a movement to overthrow democracy
3 a change in the way goods pass from business to consumers
4 a policy of non-violent behavior in the face of government abuse

5 Which statement about India’s history is most accurate?
1 military conflicts are the only way to achieve independence
2 religious conflicts can sometimes influence political events
3 military conflicts lead to improved living standards
4 religious conflicts help to promote unity among nations

6 The Taj Mahal is a classic example of
1 Muslim literature
2 Vietnamese music
3 Indian architecture
4 Pakistani technology

7 Which statement best characterizes India’s official foreign policy?
1 military alliances with Communist nations
2 friendship with all Muslim nations
3 non-alignment with the major powers
4 selling raw materials only to the Europeans

8 The partition of India into two nations was a result of
1 Communist revolutions
2 conflicts between Hindus and Muslims
3 fighting over natural resources
4 environmental concerns
In this section you will read about the major political institutions, economic development, religions and cultural achievements in South and Southeast Asia.

THINK ABOUT IT

To understand everyday life in this region, you should know certain important terms. Can you identify the following?

**Hinduism:**

**Caste System:**

Find their meanings in this section, or in the glossary (located in the back of the book).

**Important Terms:** As you read this section, look for the following terms:

- Green Revolution
- Social mobility
- Untouchables
- Reincarnation

GOVERNMENT

INDIA

India has been a democracy since its independence in 1947. It has a Parliament which makes its laws, a Prime Minister who carries out those laws and a Supreme Court which interprets the laws.

OTHER COUNTRIES

Like India, several other countries in the area — the Philippines, for example — are democracies. In addition, some civilian and military dictatorships exist in the region. Vietnam is a Communist dictatorship.

ECONOMY

INDIA

Today India has a mixed economy, in which both private business and government play important roles. While the country has some industry, three-quarters of its people are farmers, who continue to work by hand or with a few farm animals. In the 1960s and 1970s, the Indian government introduced what is called the Green Revolution. This was a policy designed to improve food production by applying modern science and technology. It succeeded in increasing some production in India, but it has been less successful in other countries in the region because farmers are often too poor to make use of the new seeds, fertilizers and equipment.
SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA
Like India, most of the nations have a traditional economic system. People work on farms and there is little industry. Some countries have private businesses, but in many nations the government plays an important economic role. In Communist countries such as Vietnam, the government directs all major economic activities. Following China’s example, however, Vietnam now permits some private enterprise and foreign investment.

SOCIETY

INDIA
In traditional India, people were organized into castes or social classes. Membership in a caste was based on a person’s birth and lasted one’s entire life. There was no social mobility (moving from one social group to another) because a person could not marry someone from another caste or move from one caste to another. Hindu priests called Brahmins belonged to the highest caste. At the bottom of the caste system were the Shudra (laborers and servants). Below them were the Untouchables, considered so lowly as to be outside the caste system. Untouchables were given work that no one else wanted to do, such as sweeping streets and handling dead animals. Although the caste tradition still exists, the government today is attempting to eliminate it. This is a difficult task, because it is an important part of Hindu religious beliefs.

SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA
Most people live in small villages as part of extended families, with children, parents, and grandparents living under one roof. Usually, the oldest man is the decision-maker, with women and children having few rights. However, traditional values and customs are being weakened as a result of urbanization (people moving to cities), improvements in living conditions, and the introduction of radio and television in the countryside.

RELIGION

HINDUISM
Over 80% of India’s people are Hindu. Hinduism is more than just a religion; its principles have an influence on how most Indians live.
OTHER RELIGIONS
Many people in this area are Muslims or Christians, religions about which you have read earlier. The Sikhs in northwest India are another important religious group. They combine Hindu and Muslim religious ideas. For example, they believe in reincarnation, but also believe in only one God. Muslims are found in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Indonesia. Also, Buddhism had its origins in India, and spread to other countries in the region. (A discussion of Buddhism can be found in the chapter on China.) Christians are found in the Philippines and Vietnam.

THE ARTS
INDIA
As in other areas of the world, much of India's culture is based on its religious beliefs. This is especially true in the fields of architecture, art, music and dance — all heavily influenced by Hinduism. For example, classical dances in India tell stories about Hindu gods and heroes. The dancers are expected to learn more than 140 different poses when performing. They are often accompanied by flutes, drums and sitars (stringed instruments), all instruments used by earlier generations.
Indian architecture was also greatly affected by its Muslim heritage. The Taj Mahal, built by the Mughals, is considered to be one of the world's most beautiful buildings.

SOUTHEASTASIA
The arts of Southeast Asia show both Chinese and Indian cultural influences. Myanmar (Burma) and Thailand are famous for their many Buddhist temples. Indonesia is known for its masked dancing and shadow-puppet theater.

SUMMING UP: SYSTEMS

GOVERNMENT. India is the world's largest democracy. Other nations like Singapore have democracy, while nations like Myanmar (Burma) have dictatorships.

ECONOMY. India has a mixed economy, where private business and government play important roles. In other parts of South and Southeast Asia, the government has a more active role. This is especially true in communist economies like Vietnam.

SOCIETY. In India people are organized into separate groups called castes. The higher castes have more privileges than the lower ones. In many parts of South and Southeast Asia, people follow traditional lifestyles.

RELIGION. Hinduism is the major religion in India. Most people in Pakistan are Muslim. Buddhism, begun in India, is the religion of many people living in Southeast Asia.

THE ARTS. The Indian arts have been influenced by Hinduism, and by a Muslim heritage. Arts in Southeast Asia show a mixed Chinese-Indian influence.

THINKING IT OVER

Now that you have read this section, what key words do you think best reflect the kind of life found in the region? ________________________________

CHECKING YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Directions: Complete the following cards. Then answer the multiple choice questions that follow.

SOCIAL MOBILITY

What is it? ________________________________

Importance: ________________________________

CASTE SYSTEM

Define it: ________________________________

Name two castes: 1 ________________________________

2 ________________________________
UNTACTHABLES
Who are they?

What do they do?

REINCARNATION
Define it:

Importance in Asian life:

HINDUISM
Definition:

Major beliefs:

GREEN REVOLUTION
What is it?

How successful was it?

1 Hinduism and Buddhism are both examples of Indian
1 religious beliefs  3 social classes
2 educational groups  4 official agencies

2 A major belief of Hindus is that
1 the goal of all people should be to achieve wealth
2 the soul continues to be reborn
3 humans are born perfect
4 Allah is the one true God

3 Which is the religion of most people in India and Pakistan?
1 Islam and Judaism
2 Animism and Hinduism
3 Judaism and Christianity
4 Islam and Hinduism

4 Belief in reincarnation is primarily associated with the beliefs of
1 Islam  3 Judaism
2 Animism  4 Hinduism

5 In India, the term “caste” refers to
1 government members
2 a hereditary social class
3 an increase in urbanization
4 traditional farming methods

6 The caste system has been most weakened by
1 enforcing military laws against the system
2 people moving from villages to cities
3 the discovery of large oil deposits in India
4 the refusal of Western nations to trade with India

7 The major goal of the Green Revolution was to
1 decrease population growth
2 increase agricultural production
3 limit military alliances
4 eliminate castes in India

8 Traditional values in India are being weakened by the
1 movement of people to the cities
2 shift in population to rural areas
3 strengthening of the caste system
4 new limitations being put on women
In this section you will read about some important individuals who have had a great impact on life in South and Southeast Asia.

**THINK ABOUT IT**

Which person first comes to mind when you think about South and Southeast Asia?  

Why?

**Important Names:** As you read this section, look for the following names:

- Mohandas Gandhi
- Mother Teresa
- Corazon Aquino
- Ho Chi Minh

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**MOHANDAS GANDHI**

Gandhi is often called the "the Father of Modern India." By using acts of civil disobedience, he was able to end British rule of India. Gandhi used a non-violent approach called "passive resistance." He was assassinated soon after India became independent. Many of his ideas of non-violent resistance were later used in the U.S. by Martin Luther King Jr. during the 1960s Civil Rights Movement.

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**CORAZON AQUINO**

Although elected President of the Philippines, Ferdinand Marcos became a dictator, enriching himself by steals government money. Corazon Aquino’s husband opposed Marcos’s rule. After her husband was assassinated, Corazon Aquino defeated Marcos in a free election. Marcos tried to claim victory anyway, but the people rose up against him and Aquino became President—a success for democracy in the Philippines.

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**MOTHER TERESA**

Mother Teresa is a nun who has devoted her life to providing health care, food and education to India’s poorest people. She established a new religious order, The Missionaries of Charity. Known as the “Saint of the Gutters,” Mother Teresa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979.

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**HO CHI MINH**

A Communist and nationalist, Ho Chi Minh was known as the “George Washington of Vietnam.” He fought for independence from the French following World War II. After Vietnam was divided into a Communist North and a non-Communist South, he fought against the South Vietnamese, the U.S. and their allies. Vietnam was reunited as a Communist nation shortly after his death.
SUMMING UP: IMPORTANT PEOPLE

Leaders like Mohandas Gandhi of India and Ho Chi Minh of Vietnam have been able to rally their nations in the struggle for independence. Corazon Aquino has helped promote democracy in the region, while Mother Theresa has drawn world attention to the problems of the poor.

THINKING IT OVER

Have you now changed your mind as to the person you would identify with the area? (Yes ___ No ___ ) If yes, why? ____________________________

If no, why not? ____________________________________________

CHECKING YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Directions: Complete the following cards. Then answer the multiple choice questions that follow.

MOHANDAS GANDHI
Who was he? ____________________________
Why was he important? ____________________________

MOTHER TERESA
Who is she? ____________________________
What has she done? ____________________________

CORAZON AQUINO
Who is she? ____________________________
Why is she important? ____________________________

HO CHI MINH
Who was he? ____________________________
What did he accomplish? ____________________________
1 With which idea is Mohandas Gandhi most closely associated?
   1 providing free medical care for everyone
   2 using force to remove the British from India
   3 isolating India from the rest of Southeast Asia
   4 achieving Indian independence through civil disobedience

2 Ho Chi Minh was important to Vietnam because
   1 he was the first elected prime minister
   2 he introduced capitalism into Vietnam
   3 he helped reunify the Vietnamese
   4 he established freedom of religion in Vietnam

3 Mohandas Gandhi was important to India because he
   1 created the Muslim League
   2 developed a modern economy in India
   3 brought a peaceful end to British rule
   4 led India in a war against Pakistan

4 Which method did Gandhi use in his struggle against British imperialism in India?
   1 supporting armed uprisings
   2 enlisting foreign help
   3 using passive resistance
   4 demanding Soviet help

In this section you will read about some of the major problems and issues currently facing the peoples of South and Southeast Asia.

Think About It

Look at the graph on page 130. It shows how the population in India has grown. What effect do you think this population growth has had on the country? (Note: If you are not familiar with interpreting line graphs, read the Skill Builder that follows, before answering this question.)

Important Terms: As you read this section, look for the following terms:
- Population Growth
- Cultural Diversity
- "Boat People"
- Sikhs

Sometimes global studies examinations have line graphs and questions about how to interpret them. In this section you will read about India's increasing population. A line graph helps to illustrate the problem that India is facing. The following Skill Builder will help you understand and interpret line graphs.
What Is a Line Graph?
A line graph is a chart made up of a series of points connected by a line. It is used to show how something has increased, decreased, or remained the same.

Keys to Understanding a Line Graph
First, look at its different parts:

**Title.** The title tells you the major focus of the line graph. For example, the title of this graph is "India's Growing Population." Thus you expect the graph to show something about how India's population is increasing.

**Vertical and Horizontal Axis.** Line graphs include a vertical (up and down) and a horizontal (side to side) axis (line). These tell you what items are being compared. In our line graph, the vertical axis, which runs from bottom to top, lists "Population" measured in **millions** of people — 300 million, 400 million, etc. Notice that as you move up from the bottom, the numbers get larger. The horizontal axis, which runs from left to right, shows the years in **ascending** (lower to higher) order.

**Legend.** If the graph has two or more lines, a legend is necessary to indicate what each line represents. If the graph has only one connecting line, as in our graph, there is no need for a legend.

Interpreting a Line Graph
First read the title, to find out the overall meaning of the graph. To find specific information, usually you must examine several items in the graph. For example, what was the population of India in 1968? To find out, run your finger across the "years" until you reach 1968. Now, move your finger up until you reach where the line representing population crosses the year 1968. To find the actual number, slide your finger over to the left, to the population figures given on the vertical axis (left side). These lines cross at about 525 million people. Thus, the answer to the question — "What was the population of India in 1968?" — is about 525 million people.

Note: Sometimes in line graph questions you are asked to identify a trend (a general direction or tendency). You can figure out a trend by looking at the points on the line. For example, the trend indicated by our graph is that India's population is continuing to rise.
RAPID POPULATION GROWTH

THE PROBLEM. Population growth is a serious problem for India and other nations in the area. Growth rates in this region are among the highest in the world. Large increases in population have led to food shortages, overcrowded cities and slums. If these populations continue to grow at present rates, there will not be enough food or resources to go around. Living standards will decline instead of improving.

SOLUTIONS. Indian leaders have suggested that people use modern methods of birth control. Many have been unwilling to do so, because they see it as a threat to their traditional way of life. To encourage population limits, the Indian government now gives extra benefits to families with two children or less.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

PROBLEMS. India faces a number of serious economic problems. It must depend on money and other kinds of help from foreign countries to build factories and to make other needed improvements. Taxes on businesses are very high. More than half of India’s workers cannot read or write. Ethnic, religious and caste differences also slow down economic growth.

SOLUTIONS. India must continue to seek money from other countries. Building schools has become very important for the training of more skilled workers. There is a large middle class which is playing an important role in helping India in its push for economic development. Limiting population growth and reducing clashes between ethnic groups would also help.

CONFLICTS BETWEEN DIFFERENT GROUPS

Cultural diversity (differences in religion, language, and traditions) is found everywhere in South and Southeast Asia. For example, Hindi is the national language of India, but there are over 15 major languages and some 850 dialects.

If cultural differences are too great, they can lead to conflict and violence. In recent years, clashes between members of different religious and ethnic groups has been on the rise. Fighting between Hindus and Muslims still occurs in India. Early in 1993, for example. Hindu rioters in Bombay attacked Muslims’ homes, resulting in over a thousand deaths. In addition, the Sikhs, another religious group in India wishing to form their own nation, have often clashed with the Hindu majority.
PROBLEMS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Starting in the 1500s, Southeast Asia gradually came under European control. It wasn’t until after World War II that the area achieved independence. Since independence, many nations in Southeast Asia have faced similar problems.

Effects of War. As a result of ongoing wars, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam are in very poor condition. Many individuals have been disabled. Roads, communications systems and the economy are in need of rebuilding.

Lack of a Democratic Tradition. Few of these nations have experienced democracy or other forms of self-rule. Many dictators are in power, and people have few rights.

Lack of Skills. Most people are farmers. The people fleeing Communist oppression in countries such as Vietnam (the so-called "boat people") are often the ones with the skills and knowledge needed to rebuild the region.

To improve standards of living and rebuild the educational system, the nations of Southeast Asia are looking to others outside of the area for help. Vietnam has recently passed new laws inviting foreign investment. However, improvements are coming about very slowly.

**Analysis**

Should the U.S. help nations in Southeast Asia? If so, why?

____________________________________________________

If not, why not?

____________________________________________________

**Summing Up: Concerns**

Among the problems facing people in this area are overpopulation, the need to develop their economies, and a lack of a democratic tradition (especially in Southeast Asia). Attempted solutions to these problems have still not met with success.
CHECKING YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Directions: Complete the following cards. Then answer the multiple choice questions that follow.

POPULATION GROWTH
Define it: ____________________________
Why is it a problem? __________________

CULTURAL DIVERSITY
Definition: ____________________________
Example: _____________________________

"BOAT PEOPLE"
Who are they? __________________________
Problem caused by their leaving: ________

SIKHS
Who are they? __________________________
Their goal: ____________________________
Why is this a problem? _________________

1 In an outline, one of these is a main topic, the others are sub-topics. Which is the main topic?
1 Lack of Democratic Traditions
2 Heavy War Damages
3 Problems Facing Southeast Asia
4 Lack of Skilled Workers

2 A major goal of the Sikhs in India is to
1 establish their own nation
2 limit nuclear weapons
3 merge with the Hindus
4 Westernize their religion

3 Which statement best illustrates the existence of cultural diversity of India?
1 A majority of Indians are Hindus.
2 India has a two-house legislature.
3 Many languages are spoken in India.
4 India depends on hand labor.

4 A major problem facing India today is that
1 there is an over-production of farm crops
2 there have been continuous wars with China
3 the population is growing faster than food production
4 modernization has led to an excessive amount of housing
SUMMARIZING YOUR UNDERSTANDING

MAP PUZZLE

Directions: Put each number in its correct location on the map.

1. India
2. Bangladesh
3. Pakistan
4. Bhutan
5. Nepal
6. China
7. Sri Lanka
8. Bay of Bengal
9. Kashmir
10. Arabian Sea
11. Indian Ocean
12. Deccan Plateau
13. Himalayan Mountains
14. Ganges River
15. Indus River

Directions: Fill in the information in the organizer below, and in the organizer on the next page.

Mountains:

Resources:

Climate:

EFFECTS OF GEOGRAPHY ON THE PEOPLES AND HISTORY OF SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

Rivers/River Valleys:
DESCRIBING HISTORICAL EVENTS

Directions: Describe fully the following important historical event that you learned about in this chapter. Fill in the information called for in each box.

WHO was involved?

____________________________

____________________________

WHEN did it happen?

____________________________

____________________________

THE PARTITION OF INDIA

WHY was it necessary?

____________________________

____________________________

RESULTS:

1. ________________________

2. ________________________

3. ________________________
People like to be with other people, and as a result they organize themselves into societies. **Sociologists** (scholars who study society) refer to the way in which society is organized as its **social structure**. Social structure consists of the institutions of a particular society and the division of its members into different groups, called **classes**.

**MEETING SOCIAL NEEDS**

Every human society has essentially the same basic needs. For example, each society tries to provide food and shelter to its members; protects itself from other groups; brings about cooperation among its members; and raises and educates its young.

**CUSTOMS AND ROLES**

Each society develops its own patterns of behavior to meet these needs. These patterns are known as **customs**, and are passed from one generation to the next. **Roles** are social rules for the proper behavior of individuals in particular positions and situations. A mother, for instance, is expected to behave in a certain way toward her children. Once a role in society is learned, people know how they are “supposed” to act.

**INSTITUTIONS**

Entire organizations, known as **institutions**, are developed by each society to help make roles clear, and to take care of social needs. For example:

- **Families** arrange for reproduction, the care of family members and raising children.
- **Governments** protect societies from hostile outsiders, promote social cooperation and regulate behavior.
- **Schools** teach the young the values of the society and prepare them for the responsibilities of adulthood.

**SOCIAL CLASSES**

In most societies, some members enjoy privileges and wide opportunities, while others suffer hardships. People who share similar characteristics are said to belong to the same **social class**. The following social classes exist in most societies:

- **Upper Class.** This group is usually wealthy and owns a large share of a society’s property. Its members often fill leadership positions within society. This is usually the smallest class.

- **Middle Class.** This is an intermediate group of educated and relatively successful people, who act as managers, professionals, shopkeepers, owners or service providers.
■ **Working Class.** This group is composed of people who work in factories, mining, transportation, or as independent craftsmen.

■ **Peasants.** These are small farmers or farm workers mainly engaged in subsistence agriculture. They have little education and limited experience of the world outside their own villages. In most non-industrialized societies, this is the largest group.

■ **Lower Class.** They are often uneducated, unskilled and either unemployed or work at the least desirable and worst-paying jobs. Often, members of lower classes face prejudice, suffer from physical or mental problems or face other social handicaps.

**SOCIAL MOBILITY**

Social mobility (*the ability to move from one social class to another*) varies greatly, depending on the kind of social system people live under.

**SOCIETIES WHERE RACE OR CASTE PREVENT MOBILITY**

In some societies, social mobility is not possible. Each person is assigned a social position inherited from his or her parents. Usually this is based on racial or cultural characteristics. In South Africa, blacks were treated as an inferior social class: until recently, they had no political rights and very little economic opportunity. Traditional Indian society was divided into castes. There was no movement from one caste to another. Your caste determined what work you did and who your friends were. Your children also remained in the same caste and were limited to the same range of jobs.

**SOCIETIES WITH SOCIAL MOBILITY**

In other societies, class is defined in terms of wealth, education and type of occupation. Each person is born into a particular social class, but it is possible to move from one class to another. In some societies, the movement is limited, while in others—like the United States—people may move more easily from one class to another.

**ANSWERING QUESTIONS ON SOCIAL CONFLICT**

Because people often feel deeply about their race, ethnic group, or religion, members of different groups often do not trust one another. History is full of examples of conflict between ethnic, racial and religious groups.

At times on a global studies examination you will be asked to discuss conflicts that exist between different groups and to examine the effects of these conflicts on those involved. As you read through this book, you will learn about different social conflicts that exist in various parts of the world. To help you answer any type of question dealing with this topic, each area chapter in this book contains a *History* section which discusses the major social conflicts and their causes. In addition, the *Systems* section contains important information about the principal conflicts in the area.
Directions: Circle the number in front of the word or expression that correctly answers the statement or question. Following the multiple choice questions, answer the essay questions.

4 The Indus, Amazon, and Nile are the names of 1 mountain ranges 3 islands 2 river systems 4 plateaus

5 Mohandas Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. both believed 1 that total power should be in the hands of government 2 that violence is the best way to achieve political power 3 in using non-violent methods to achieve a goal 4 in one-man rule of the government


7 The Buddhist religion spread from India to other parts of Asia. This illustrates 1 urbanization 3 democratic reforms 2 nationalism 4 cultural diffusion

8 • The U.S. buys raw materials from India. • India buys manufactured goods from the U.S.

These statements are examples of 1 India’s social independence 2 global interdependence 3 that India has industrialized 4 that economic warfare is inevitable

9 Traditional Indian society was organized into social classes known as 1 castes 3 clans 2 families 4 tribes
10 If India’s population continues to grow faster than its food production, it is likely that India’s
1 standard of living will decline
2 government will remain unchanged.
3 exports will decline
4 people will move from cities to mountain areas

ESSAYS

1 Religious conflicts can play an important role in the history of an area.

Religious Conflicts

Muslims / Jews in the Middle East
Hindus / Muslims in South Asia
Sikhs / Hindus in South Asia

Part A
Choose one of the religious conflicts listed:

State the reason for the conflict between the two groups:

Part B
In your Part B answer, you should use information you gave in Part A. However, you may also include
different or additional information in your Part B answer.

Write an essay discussing how religious differences can play an important role in the history of
an area.

2 Developing nations often have similar problems that slow or prevent their economic growth.

Part A
Define the term economic growth:

List two problems that slow or prevent the economic growth of nations in South or Southeast Asia.

1 ___________________________ 2 ___________________________

Part B
In your Part B answer, you should use information you gave in Part A. However, you may also include
different or additional information in your Part B answer.

Write an essay showing how developing nations often have similar problems that slow or prevent
their economic growth.
3 Some individuals have brought about important changes in their countries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individuals</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mohandas Gandhi</td>
<td>F.W. De Klerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ho Chi Minh</td>
<td>Nelson Mandela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anwar Sadat</td>
<td>Saddam Hussein</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Part A**

Select two individuals from the list, and for each one state how that individual has brought about an important change in his country:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDIVIDUAL</th>
<th>CHANGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Part B**

In your Part B answer, you should use information you gave in Part A. However, you may also include different or additional information in your Part B answer.

Write an essay showing how some individuals have brought about important changes in their countries.