

## AP Human Geography Summer Assignments.

Please complete the following assignments in order to prepare yourself for AP Human Geography.

### Globalization Article Assignment:

One of the major themes of the course is the topic of globalization – a term that is used very often and has multiple meanings. For our purposes, let's define globalization as **the interconnectedness of different places in the world**. This means that various places on Earth that were once isolated from one another now interact, sometimes on a daily basis. This interaction can be between individuals (imagine 2 people in different countries communicating via Twitter or Facebook) or between countries in one of the following ways:

- Economic (trade, multi-national corporations like McDonald's or Wal-Mart)
- Political (warfare, organizations like the United Nations, NATO, or the European Union) -
- Social/Cultural Elements/Values (clothing, music, social media, language, food, and other cultural elements)

Now read the following article, "How India Became America" (New York Times) and answer the questions based on the description above and the article: How India Became America By AKASH KAPUR (New York Times - March 9, 2012)

Questions:

1. How does the title of the article itself describe the idea of globalization?
2. Describe in detail the different ways that the author claims that India is becoming more Americanized (this is spoken about throughout the entire article)
3. Towards the end of the article, the author describes the Americanization of India as "...more complex...than it first appears." – describe his feelings.
4. (OPINION QUESTION) – Based on the article and your own feelings, describe how globalization of culture (being exposed to different types of food, clothing, religions, languages, technology, dress, etc.) can be both positive and negative for individuals and their cultures.

## Personal and Family Migration Assignment:

It's a truism that the United States is a country of immigrants, whether from Europe in the 18th and 19th centuries, or from Latin American, Asian, and Africa in the late 20th and early 21st. Human migration is a major theme of this course – and not simply memorizing what people went where, but analyzing the reasons (called push and pull factors) that cause people to move long distances, and what impact these migrations have on all places involved, and the world in general.

In that spirit, rather than simply memorizing a bunch of vocabulary, I want you to tell the story of your own family's migration from wherever to the current town you find yourself living in. You can either speak from personal experience (if you came to this country during your life), or speak with family members to help you answer. Below are a series of prompts to guide your story.

No less than 1 page – but feel free to write as much as you like.

1. From what country did your family originate?
2. When did the migration take place (what year - approximately)?
3. For what reasons did the migration take place? What were the push factors (economic reasons, political/cultural reasons, etc.)?
4. What were the pull factors to the U.S. specifically? In other words, for whatever reason they left their country, why did they end up in the United States and not Canada, for example?
5. Why did they come to New York (and ultimately the towns which surround our school) specifically? Why not another state, or region of New York?
6. Did they come directly to the United States, or migrate elsewhere first?
7. By what means did they migrate (plane, boat, on foot, etc.)
8. Did they (or you) face any challenges when they (or you) reached the new destination? If so, what were the challenges? (Language barriers, job opportunities, attitudes towards immigrants, etc.)?

\*These are just prompts to get you started – I want the page written in a fluid, essay like format. In other words, don't list 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. We will also use this assignment when we begin our chapter on migration.

## Map Skills Assignment:

A list of Countries, Regions, and Cities is included that you **MUST KNOW**. We will have a series of Map Quizzes during the first week or so of class.



The New York Times |

SundayReview | OPINION

# How India Became America

By AKASH KAPUR MARCH 9, 2012

Pondicherry, India

ANOTHER brick has come down in the great wall separating India from the rest of the world. Recently, both Starbucks and Amazon announced that they would be entering the Indian market. Amazon has already started a comparison shopping site; Starbucks plans to open its first outlet this summer.

As one Indian newspaper put it, this could be “the final stamp of globalization.”

For me, though, the arrival of these two companies, so emblematic of American consumerism, and so emblematic, too, of the West Coast techie culture that has infiltrated India’s own booming technology sector, is a sign of something more distinctive. It signals the latest episode in India’s remarkable process of Americanization.

I grew up in rural India, the son of an Indian father and American mother. I spent many summers (and the occasional biting, shocking winter) in rural Minnesota. I always considered both countries home. In truth, though, the India and America of my youth were very far apart: cold war adversaries, America’s capitalist exuberance a sharp contrast to India’s austere socialism. For much of my life, my two homes were literally — but also culturally, socially and experientially — on opposite sides of the planet.

All that began changing in the early 1990s, when India liberalized its economy. Since then, I’ve watched India’s transformation with exhilaration,

but occasionally, and increasingly, with some anxiety.

I left for boarding school in America in 1991. By the time I graduated from high school, two years later, Indian cities had filled with shopping malls and glass-paneled office buildings. In the countryside, thatch huts had given way to concrete homes, and cashew and mango plantations were being replaced by gated communities. In both city and country, a newly liberated population was indulging in a frenzy (some called it an orgy) of consumerism and self-expression.

More than half a century ago, R. K. Narayan, that great chronicler of India in simpler times, wrote about his travels in America. “America and India are profoundly different in attitude and philosophy,” he wrote. “Indian philosophy stresses austerity and unencumbered, uncomplicated day-to-day living. America’s emphasis, on the other hand, is on material acquisition and the limitless pursuit of prosperity.” By the time I decided to return to India for good, in 2003, Narayan’s observations felt outdated. A great reconciliation had taken place; my two homes were no longer so far apart.

This reconciliation — this Americanization of India — had both tangible and intangible manifestations. The tangible signs included an increase in the availability of American brands; a noticeable surge in the population of American businessmen (and their booming voices) in the corridors of five-star hotels; and, also, a striking use of American idiom and American accents. In outsourcing companies across the country, Indians were being taught to speak more slowly and stretch their O’s. I found myself turning my head (and wincing a little) when I heard young Indians call their colleagues “dude.”

But the intangible evidence of Americanization was even more remarkable. Something had changed in the very spirit of the country. The India in which I grew up was, in many respects, an isolated and dour place of limited opportunity. The country was straitjacketed by its moralistic rejection of capitalism, by a lethargic and often depressive fatalism.

Now it is infused with an energy, a can-do ambition and an entrepreneurial spirit that I can only describe as distinctly American. In surveys of global opinion, Indians consistently rank as among the most

optimistic people in the world. Bookstores are stacked with titles like “India Arriving,” “India Booms” and “The Indian Renaissance.” The Pew Global Attitudes Project, which measures opinions across major countries, regularly finds that Indians admire values and attributes typically thought of as American: free-market capitalism, globalization, even multinational companies. Substantial majorities associate Americans with values like hard work and inventiveness, and even during the Iraq war, India’s views of America remained decidedly positive.

I HAVE learned, though, that the nation’s new American-style prosperity is a more complex, and certainly more ambivalent, phenomenon than it first appears. The villages around my home have undeniably grown more prosperous, but they are also more troubled. Abandoned fields and fallow plantations are indications of a looming agricultural and environmental crisis. Ancient social structures are collapsing under the weight of new money. Bonds of caste and religion and family have frayed; the panchayats, village assemblies made up of elders, have lost their traditional authority. Often, lawlessness and violence step into the vacuum left behind.

I recently spoke with a woman in her mid-50s who lives in a nearby village. She leads a simple life (impoverished even, by American standards), but she is immeasurably better off than she was a couple of decades ago. She grew up in a thatch hut. Now she lives in a house with a concrete roof, running water and electricity. Her son owns a cellphone and drives a motorcycle. Her niece is going to college.

But not long before we talked, there had been a murder in the area, the latest in a series of violent attacks and killings. Shops that hadn’t existed a decade ago were boarded up in anticipation of further violence; the police patrolled newly tarred roads. The woman was scared to leave her home.

“This is what all the money has brought to us,” she said to me. “We were poor, but at least we didn’t need to worry about our lives. I think it was better that way.”

Hers is a lament — against rapid development, against the brutality of modernity — that I have heard with increasing frequency. India’s

Americanization has in so many ways been a wonderful thing. It has lifted millions from poverty, and, by seeding ideas of meritocracy and individual attainment into the national imagination, it has begun the process of dismantling an old and often repressive order. More and more, though, I find myself lying awake at night, worrying about what will take the place of that order. The American promise of renewal and reinvention is deeply seductive — but, as I have learned since coming back home, it is also profoundly menacing.

***Correction: March 18, 2012***

*A photo caption with an opinion article about the Americanization of India last Sunday incorrectly identified the mall in the image. It was the Express Avenue mall in Chennai, not Mantri Square mall, which is in Bangalore.*

Akash Kapur is the **author** of the forthcoming “India Becoming: A Portrait of Life in Modern India.”

A version of this op-ed appears in print on March 11, 2012, on page SR5 of the New York edition with the headline: How India Became America.

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# COUNTRIES YOU MUST KNOW

Southwest Asia & North Africa	Europe	Asia
Iraq	France	Russia
Iran	Germany	China
Afghanistan	Sweden	Kazakhstan
Yemen	Greece	South Korea
Morocco	Spain	North Korea
Israel	United Kingdom	Kyrgyzstan
Libya	Denmark	Mongolia
Egypt	Poland	Nepal
Saudi Arabia	Austria	Pakistan
Turkey	Italy	India
Oman	Switzerland	Bangladesh
Algeria	Belgium	Sri Lanka
Syria	Netherlands	Laos
Jordan	Romania	Vietnam
Lebanon	Croatia	Cambodia
Cyprus	Ukraine	Thailand
United Arab Emirates (UAE)	Czech Republic	Myanmar (Burma)
Mali	Bosnia-Herzegovina	Bhutan
Sudan	Serbia	Nepal
Tunisia	Iceland	Armenia

North America	Latin America	Africa
Canada* <i>know major cities &amp; Quebec</i>	Mexico	South Africa
	Guatemala	Madagascar
United States ** <i>know locations of all 50 states</i>	Honduras	Lesotho
	Nicaragua	Tanzania
	Costa Rica	Kenya
	Panama	Ethiopia
<b>Pacific Rim</b>	Brazil	Angola
Australia	Bolivia	Botswana
New Zealand	Peru	Rwanda
Indonesia	Ecuador	Uganda
Singapore	Venezuela	Nigeria
Malaysia	Colombia	Malawi
Philippines	Chile	Ghana
Japan	Argentina	Zimbabwe
Taiwan	Paraguay	Somalia
Papua New Guinea	Uruguay	Liberia
	Dominican Republic	Sierra Leone
	Haiti	Namibia
	Cuba	Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)
	Jamaica	Eritrea

# WORLD REGIONS YOU MUST KNOW

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## REGIONS OF THE UNITED STATES

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# CITIES YOU MUST KNOW

SW Asia & North Africa	Europe	Asia
Cairo, Egypt Tripoli, Libya Tehran, Iran Kabul, Afghanistan Ankara, Turkey Istanbul, Turkey Baghdad, Iraq Jerusalem, Israel Tel Aviv, Israel Riyadh, Saudi Arabia Mecca, Saudi Arabia Dubai, U.A.E.	Amsterdam, Netherlands Rotterdam, Netherlands Berlin, Germany London, England Madrid, Spain Paris, France Rome, Italy Vienna, Austria Bucharest, Romania Budapest, Hungary Prague, Czech Republic Warsaw, Poland Kiev, Ukraine Moscow, Russia St. Petersburg, Russia Vladivostok, Russia	Calcutta, India Delhi, India Islamabad, Pakistan Karachi, Pakistan Mumbai (Bombay), India New Delhi, India Beijing, China Hong Kong, China Shanghai, China Pyongyang, North Korea Seoul, South Korea
Pacific Rim	Latin America	Africa
Jakarta, Indonesia Manila, Philippines Osaka-Kyoto, Japan Singapore, Singapore Tokyo, Japan Sydney, Australia	Bogotá, Colombia Buenos Aires, Argentina Havana, Cuba Lima, Peru Mexico City, Mexico Brasília, Brazil Rio de Janeiro, Brazil São Paulo, Brazil Santiago, Chile	Lagos, Nigeria Abuja, Nigeria Nairobi, Kenya Cape Town, South Africa Johannesburg, South Africa
		North America
		Boston, Massachusetts Chicago, Illinois Dallas, Texas Los Angeles, California New York, New York St. Louis, Missouri San Francisco, California Washington, D.C.