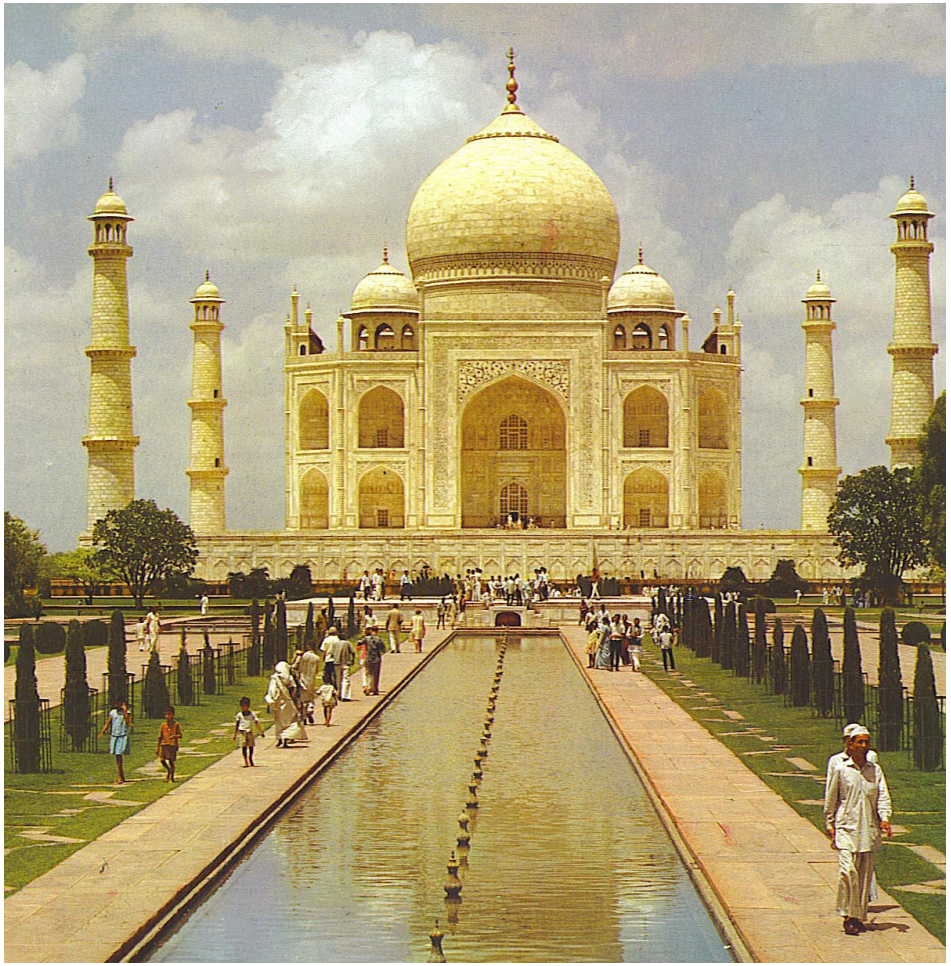
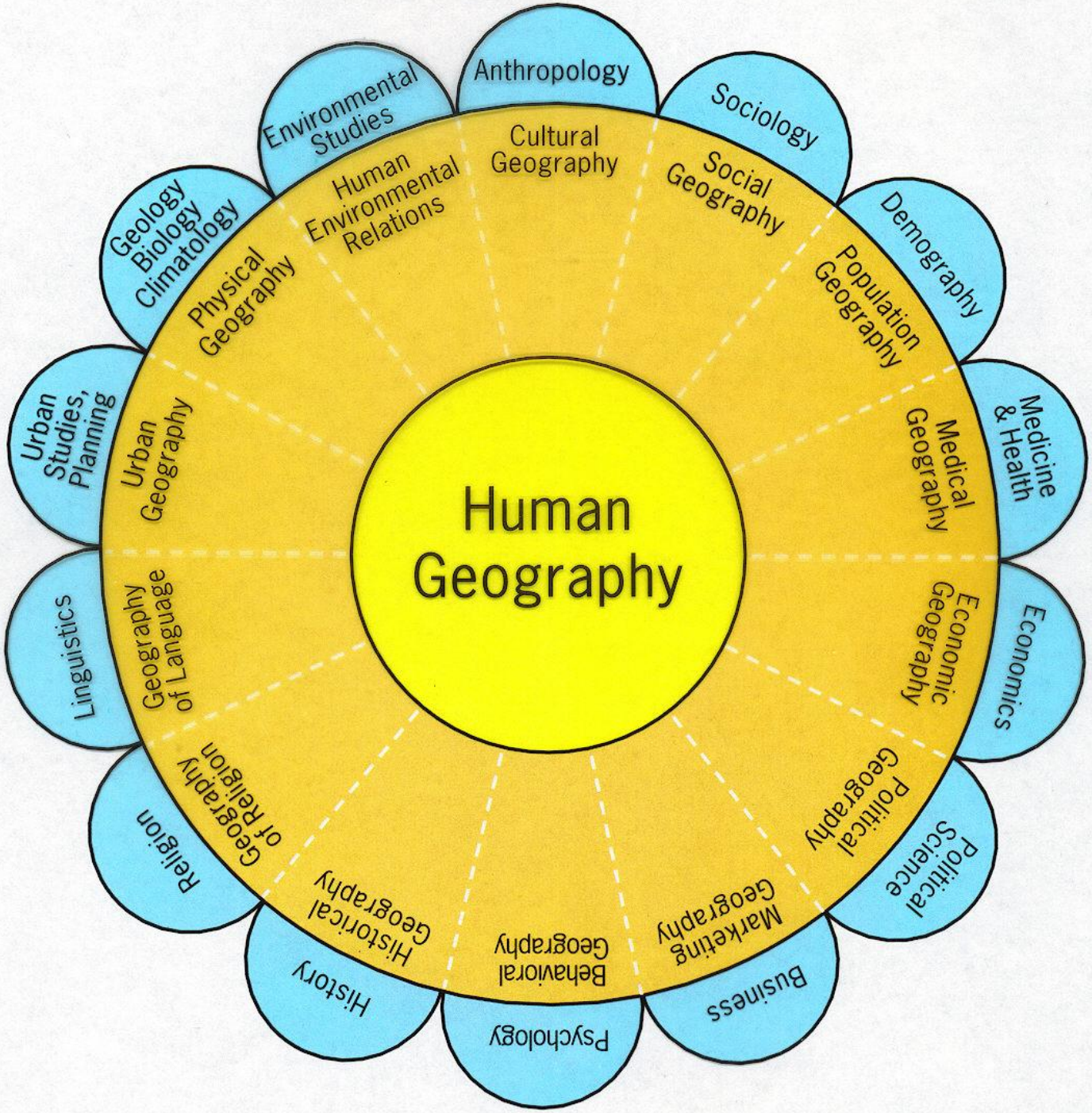
The Two Types of Geography

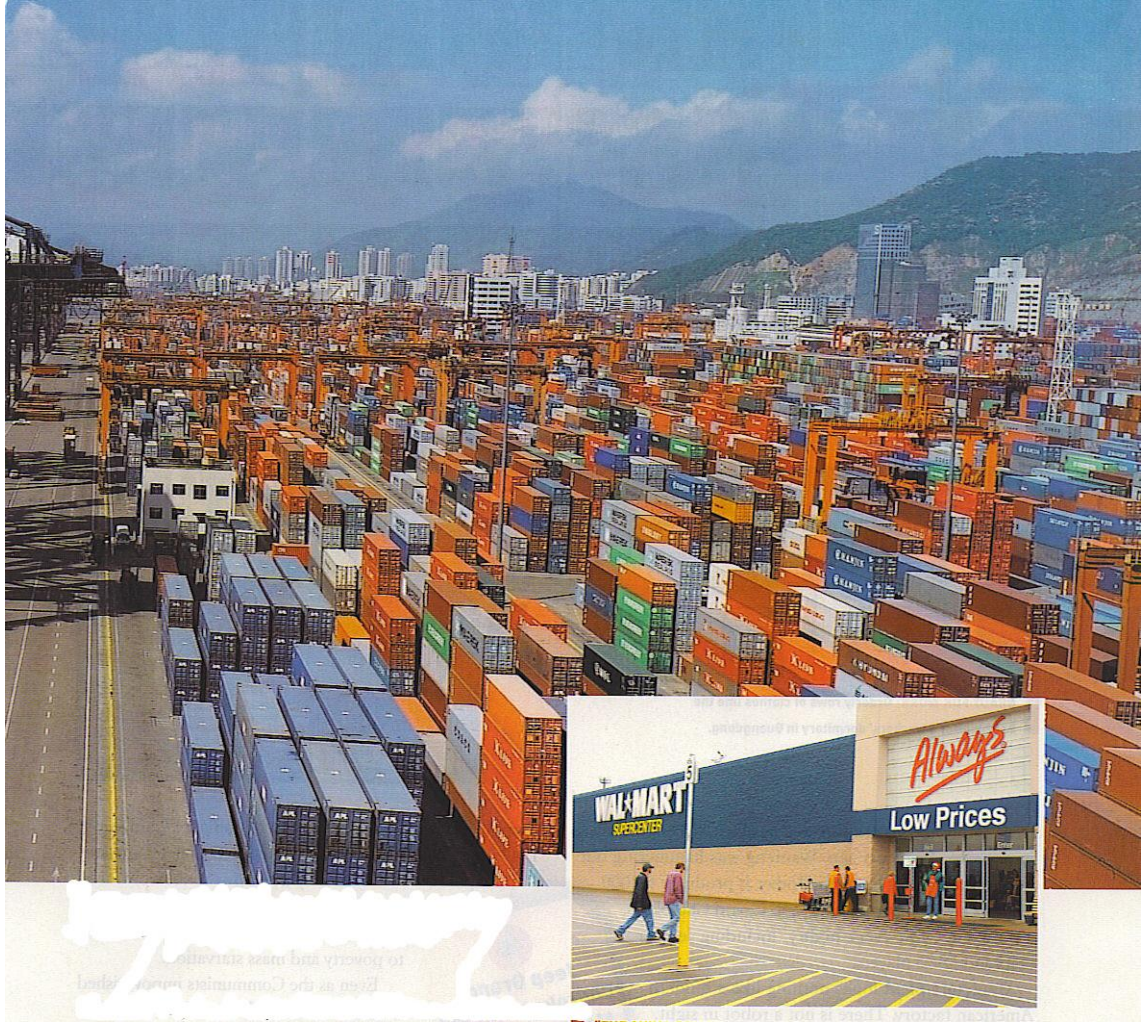
- **Physical Geography**
  - Topography
  - Climate (Koppen)
  - Flora and Fauna
  - soil
- **Human Geography**
  - Culture
  - Population
  - Economic
  - Political
  - Urban
  - Agriculture




Human Geography
Physical Geography
Human Environmental Relations
Cultural Geography
Social Geography
Population Geography
Medical Geography
Economic Geography
Political Geography
Marketing Geography
Behavioral Geography
Historical Geography
Geography of Religion
Geography of Language
Urban Geography
Environmental Studies
Geology Biology Climatology
Anthropology
Sociology
Demography
Medicine & Health
Economics
Political Science
Business
Psychology
History
Religion
Linguistics
Urban Studies, Planning

Globalization

- The spread of economic activities from one country to many other regions.
- The establishment of integrated industrial and service sectors world-wide.
- Primarily an economic factor, it has enormous social and political consequences.



Local Diversity

- Ironically as the world becomes more globalized it has become more diverse.
- Many people search for ways to express their unique cultural traditions and identity as a reaction to globalization.

- Distribution-geographers are concerned about the arrangement of features on the earth's surface.
- 3 main properties of distribution are:
  - **Density-**the frequency that something occurs in a given space.
  - **Concentration-**changes in distribution-how close together-dispersed or clustered.
  - **Pattern-**the arrangement of the distribution of features in a given space.

(a1)
(a2)
(a3)
Density
Concentration
Pattern
(b1)
(b2)
(b3)

- **Absolute location** or **mathematical location** is the exact latitude and longitude coordinates of a place.
- **Relative location-**the location of a place in relation to other physical or human features.
- **Centrality-**the function of location relative to urban places, resources, productive farmland and efficient transportation systems. Cities for example dominate their locations economically, politically and culturally thus displaying centrality.

The Founders of Geography

- **Eratosthenes**
  - Head librarian at Alexandria in 3rd cent. B.C.
  - Calculated Earth's circumference
  - Coined the term "geography ***geo***, earth, ***graphein***, to write
- **Ptolemy**
  - A 2nd cent. A.D. Greek geographer-astronomer
  - Adopted a system of latitude and longitude based on 360 degrees
  - Wrote ***Guide to Geography*** the first book dedicated to the field
  - Created world maps that were rediscovered and published in the 15th and 16th centuries. Their inaccuracies led Columbus to believe that he landed in Asia.

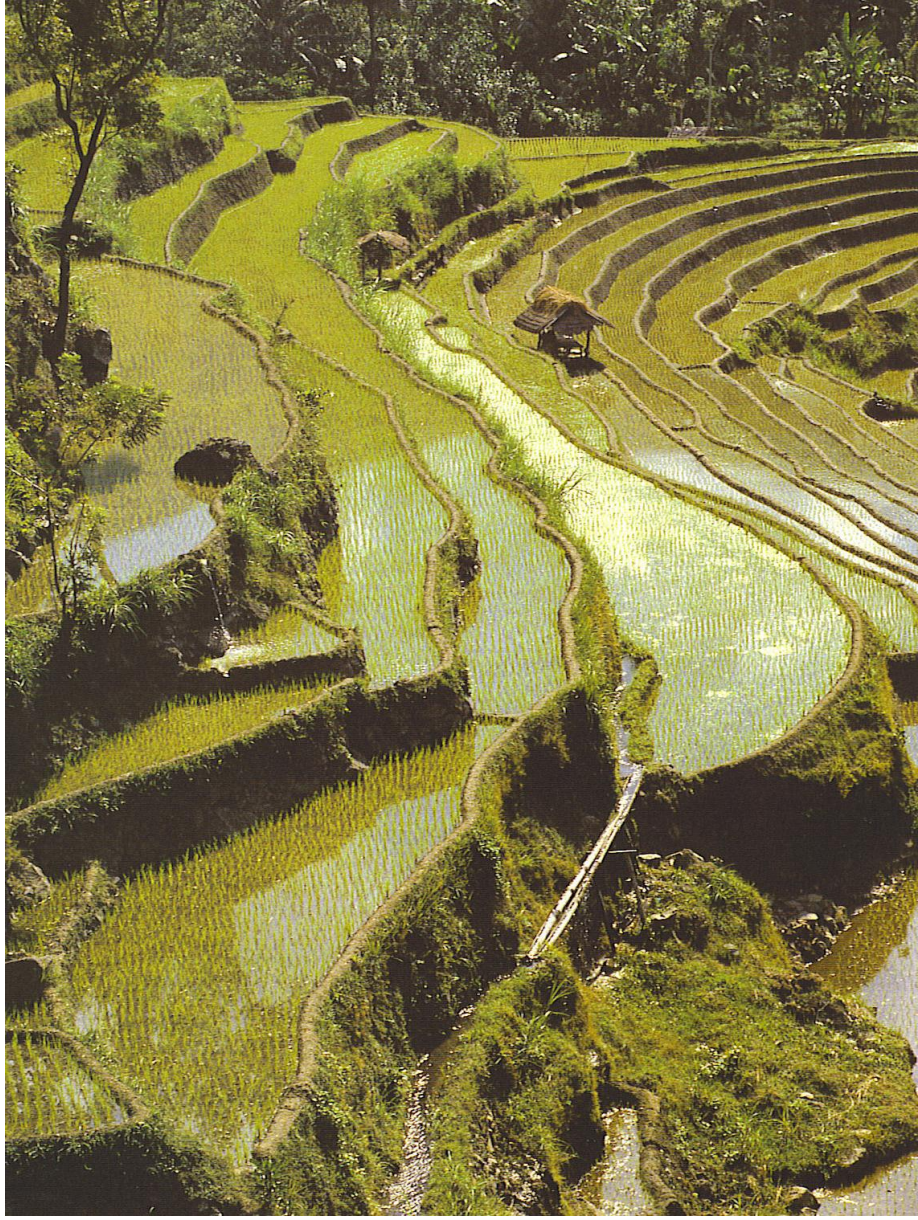
The Founders of Geography

- **Immanuel Kant (1724-1804)**
  - German philosopher who helped to bring about the formal study of Geography.
  - His belief in the intellectual importance of geography helped to establish it as a formal discipline.
  - He said if it involved time it was History and if it involved place it was Geography.
- **Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859)**
  - Famous German scientists who traveled extensively and wrote about the connection of the physical and cultural environment-paid attention to spatial patterns & cause and effect.
  - Considered the founder of modern geography

The Founders of Geography

- **Friedrich Ratzel (1844-1904)**
  - –German geographer who wrote helped introduce environmental determinism and geopolitics.
- **Ellen Churchill Semple (1863-1932)**
  - –A student of Ratzel, she brought his ideas to the U.S.
  - –Believed that religions were a product of their physical environment
- **Ellsworth Huntington (1876-1947)**
  - –Taught Geography at Yale (1907-1917)
  - –Stated that temperate climates influenced the development of civilization and economic success.
  - –His assertions were a justification for the imperialism of the late 19th and early 20th century.

- Ratzel, Semple and Huntington made **environmental determinism** a cornerstone of geographic thought.
- **Possibilism** has replaced environmental determinism.
- The environment may limit some human actions, but people have the ability to adjust to their environment.
- When climate limits the crop, people can grow crops that are compatible.



- In the 1980s the National Geographic Society created the **Five Themes of Geography**
  - **Location-**absolute (latitude and longitude) and absolute location.
  - **Place-**the distinctive physical and human characteristics of a place.
  - **Human-Environmental Interaction-**how people interact with their environment.
  - **Movement-**the mobility of people, goods and ideas-the patterns and change in human spatial interactions-accessibility & connectivity of places.
  - **Regions-**an area that displays a selected criteria-one or more distinctive characteristics.

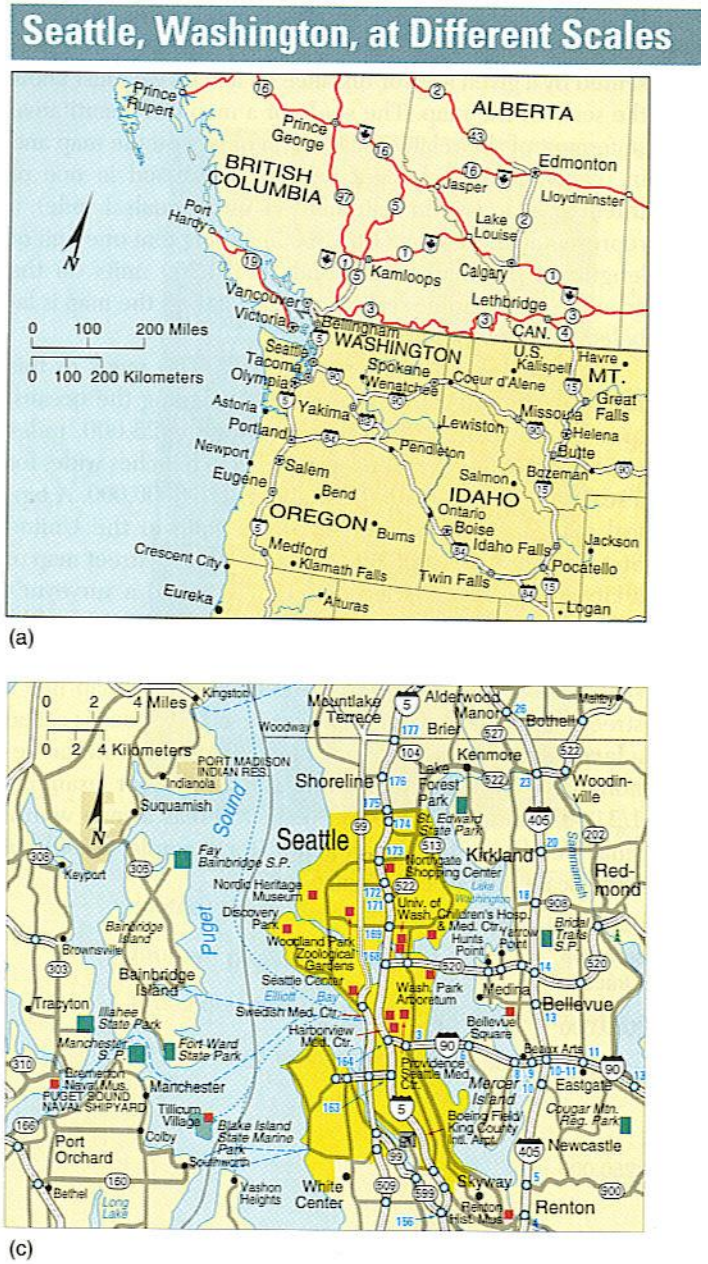
Maps

- **Problems**
  - Smaller than reality
  - Curved earth is distorted when flattened
  - Symbols used are limited
- **Properties**
  - Scale
  - Projection
  - Symbols

Gerhardus Mercator

Scale

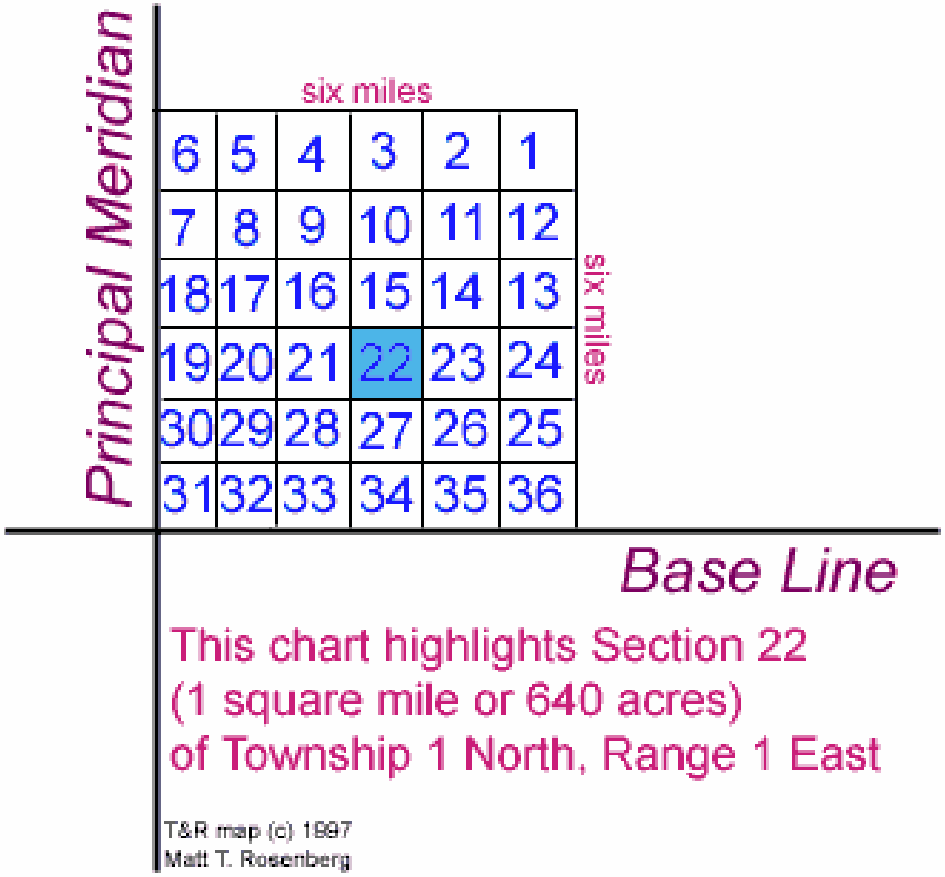
- The relation of a feature's size on the map to actual size.
- Small scale or small fraction maps show a large area on the earth such as 1/1,000,000.
- Large scale or large fraction maps show a small area on the surface such as 1/25,000 or 1/1000.



Thematic Maps

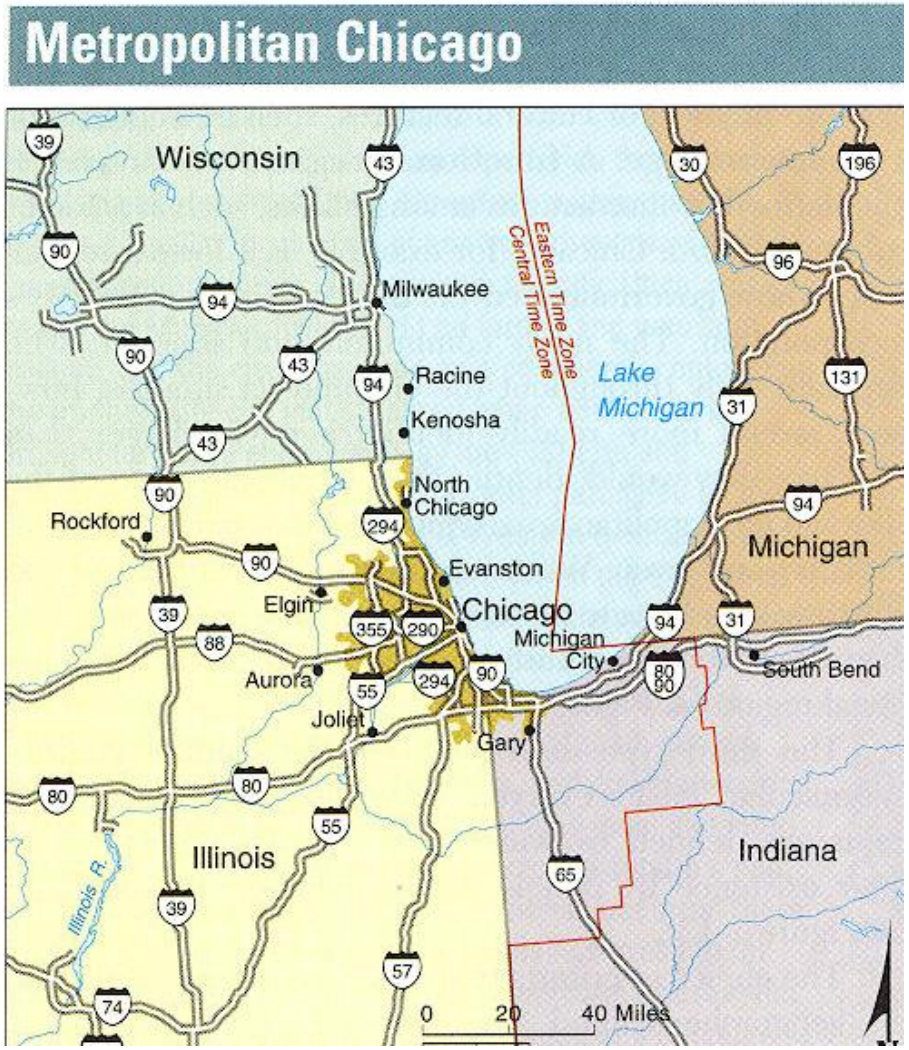
- **Isoline Maps-**use lines of equal value to represent data like elevation, barometric pressure or temperature
- **Choropleth** Maps-a thematic map in which a variable is depicted with shading patterns or colors.
- **Proportional Symbol Map-**a thematic map in which the size of the symbol varies in proportion to the intensity of the mapped variable.
- **Dot Map-**a thematic map in which a dot represents some frequency of the mapped variable.
- **Cartogram-**a thematic map using relative size of political units to convey a value.

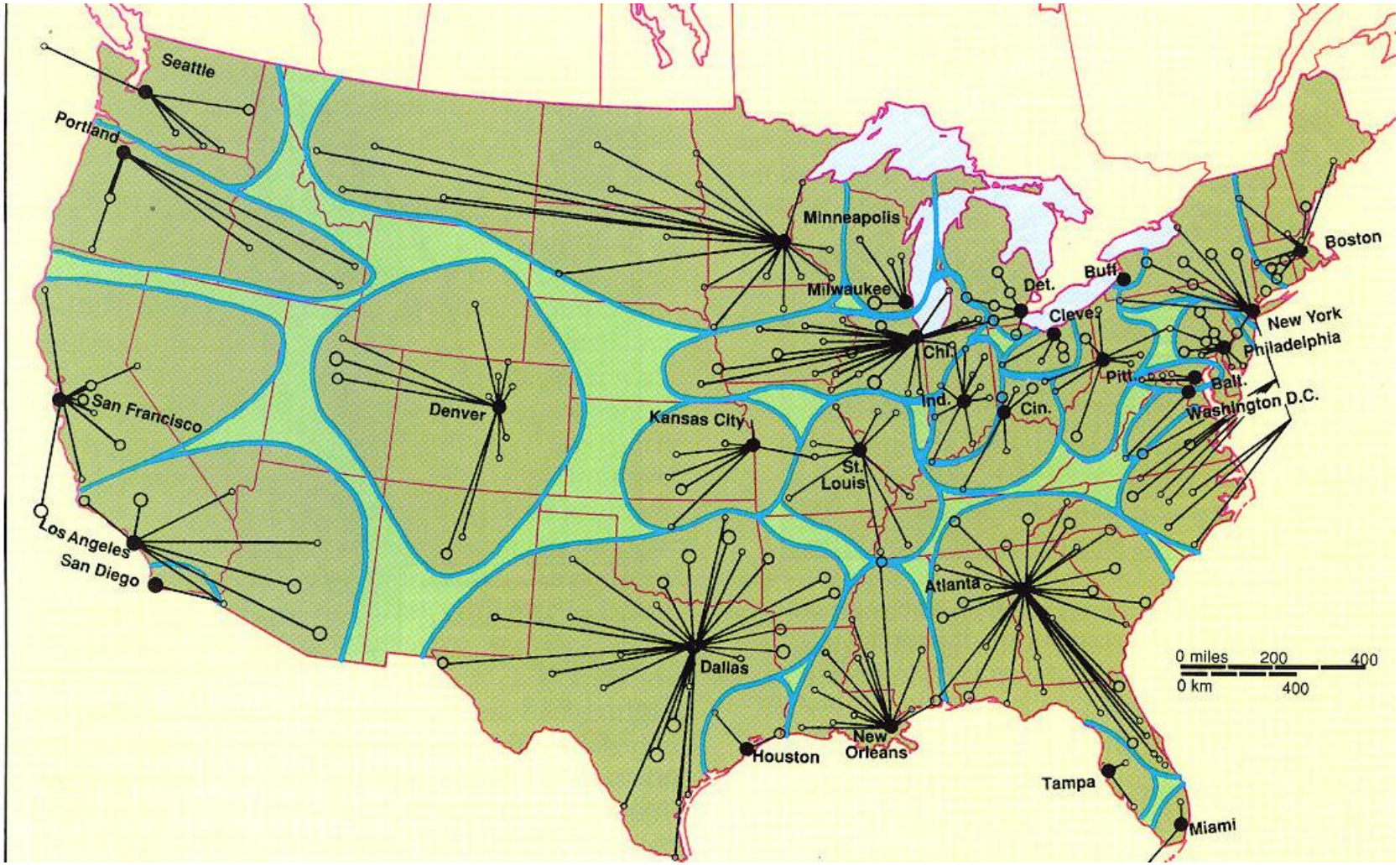
- **The Township and Range System** was created by the US Land Ordinance of 1785.
- Each township is divided into 36 sections each 1 mile by 1 mile and numbered 1 in the NE and 36 in the SE.
- The Homestead Act of 1863 encouraged the settlement of the West by giving each settler a quarter section or 160 acres of land.



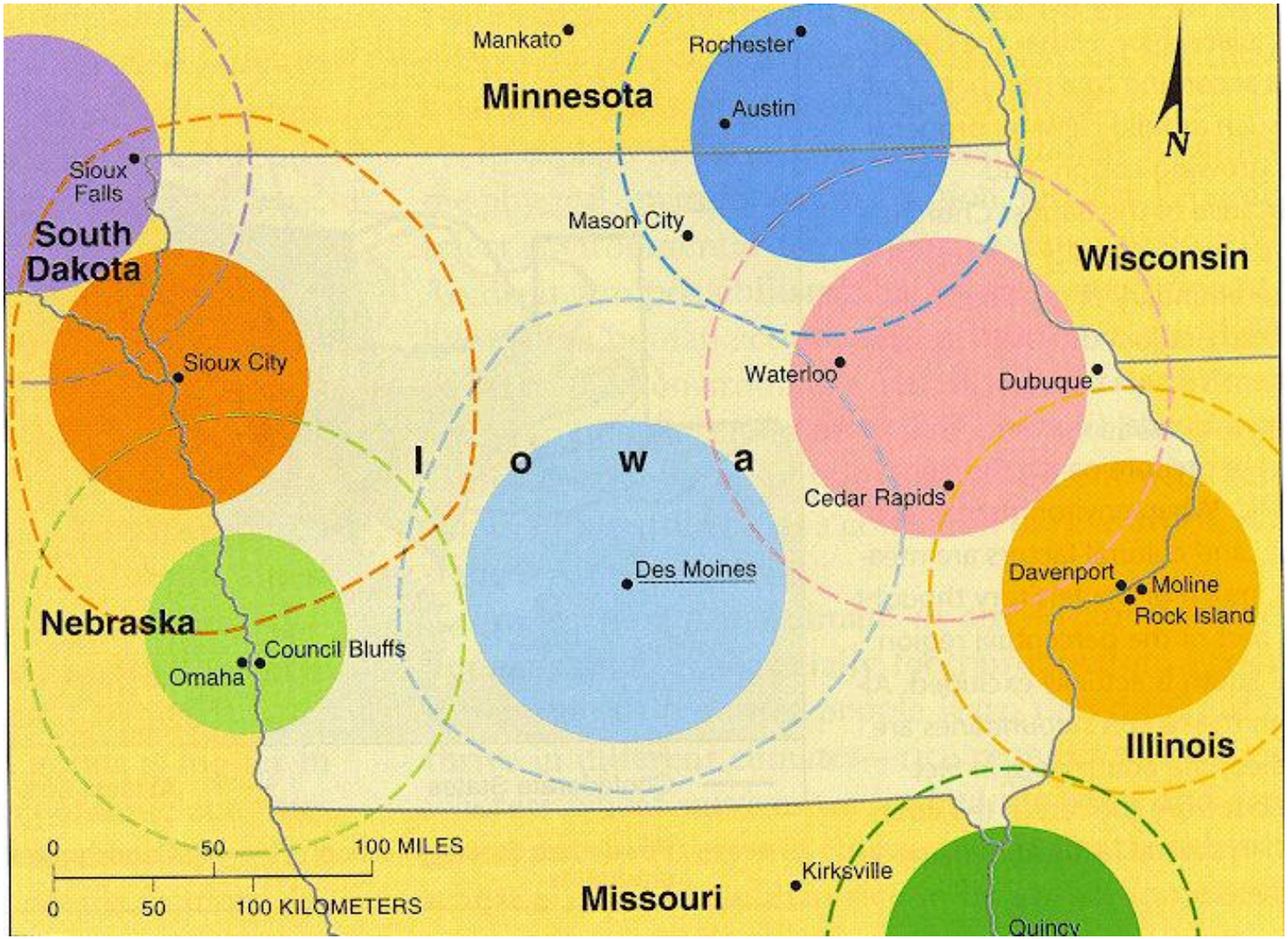
Regions

- **Formal-**a uniform or homogenous area where all share a common attribute such as language, climate or political system.
- **Functional or Nodal-** an area organized around a center, node or focal point that is organized to function politically, socially or economically.
- **Vernacular or Perceptual-**how people think about or perceive a region-such as Midwest or the South





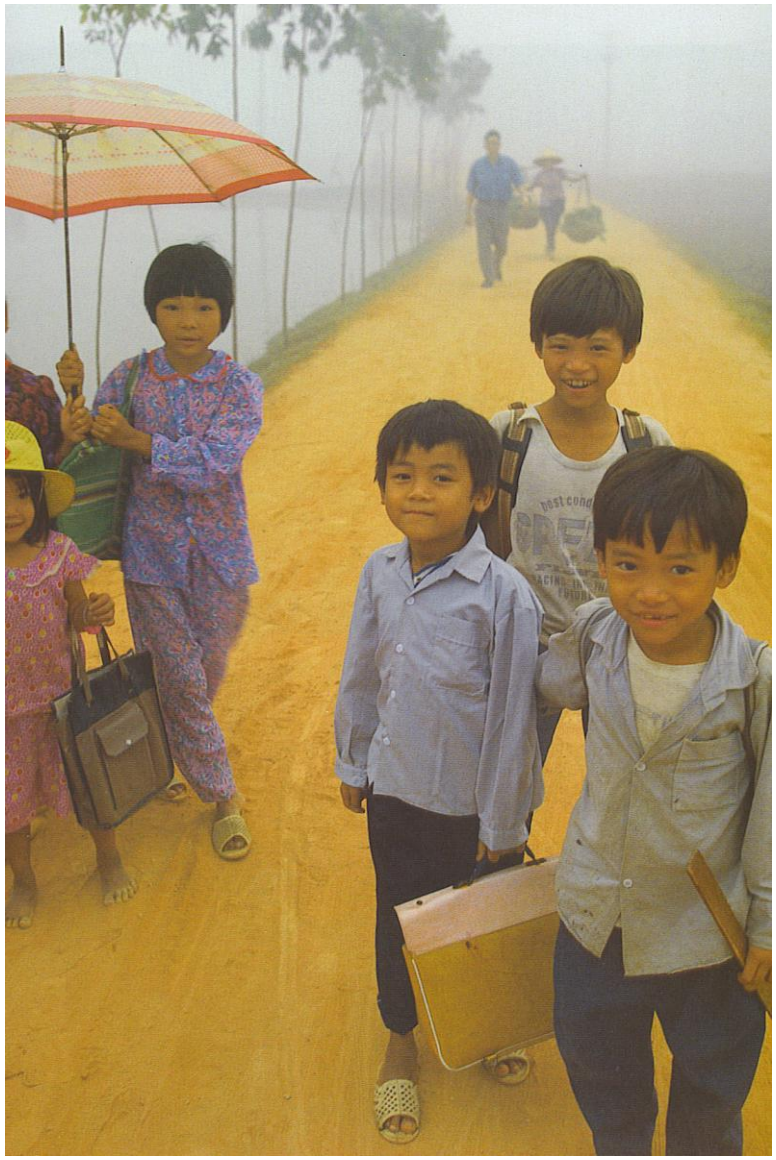
- This **functional regions** on this map are based on the linkages between large banks of major central cities and the correspondent banks that they serve in smaller towns.



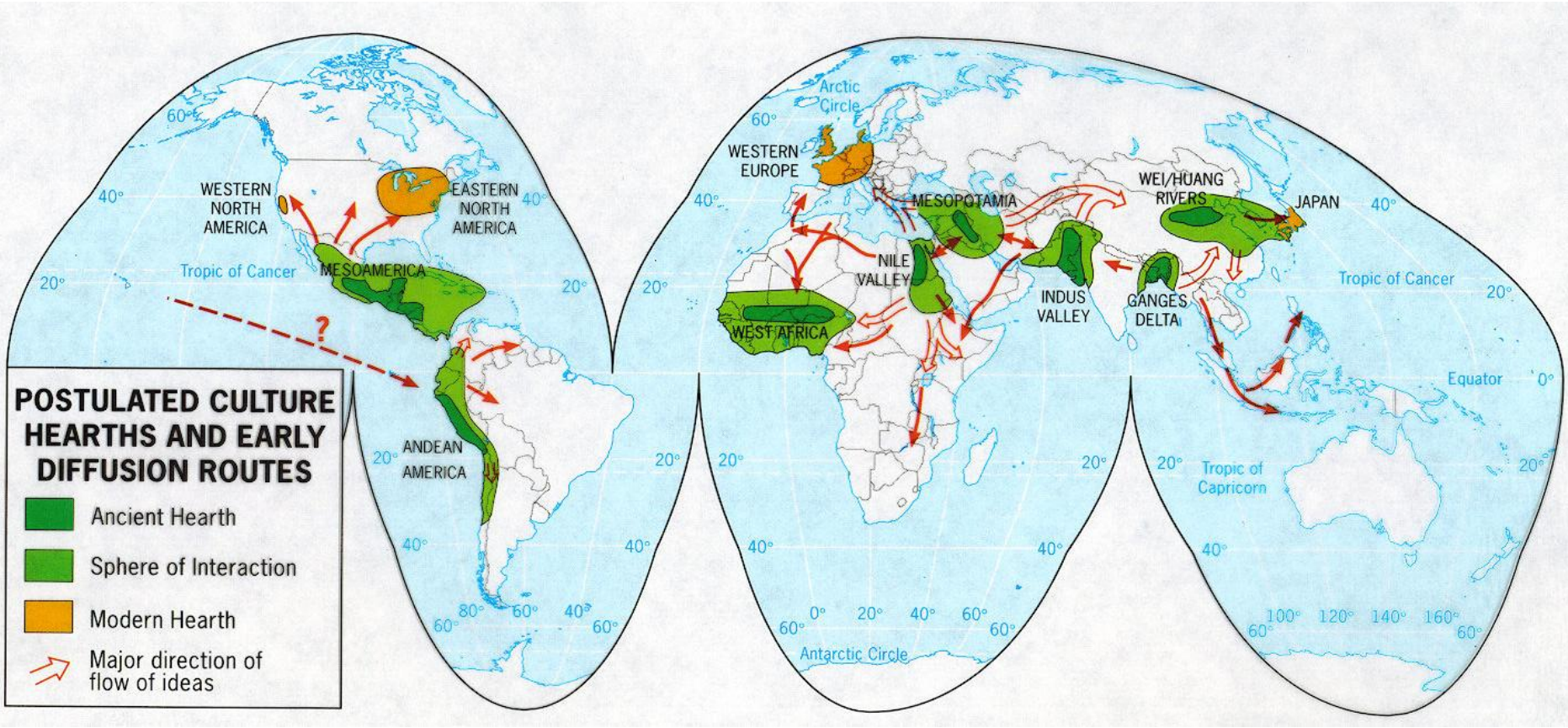
- The state of Iowa is a **Formal Region.**
- The colored circles represent the percentage of households served by a TV station and are **Functional Regions**

Culture

- **Culture is** the man-made part of the environment.
- **Cultural trait** is a single attribute of a culture such as chopsticks.
- **Cultural region** is a portion of the earth occupied by people who share cultural traits such as religions, languages, political organizations, etc.
- **Cultural realm**-is a large segment of the earth with uniformity in cultural characteristics such as “Latin America”

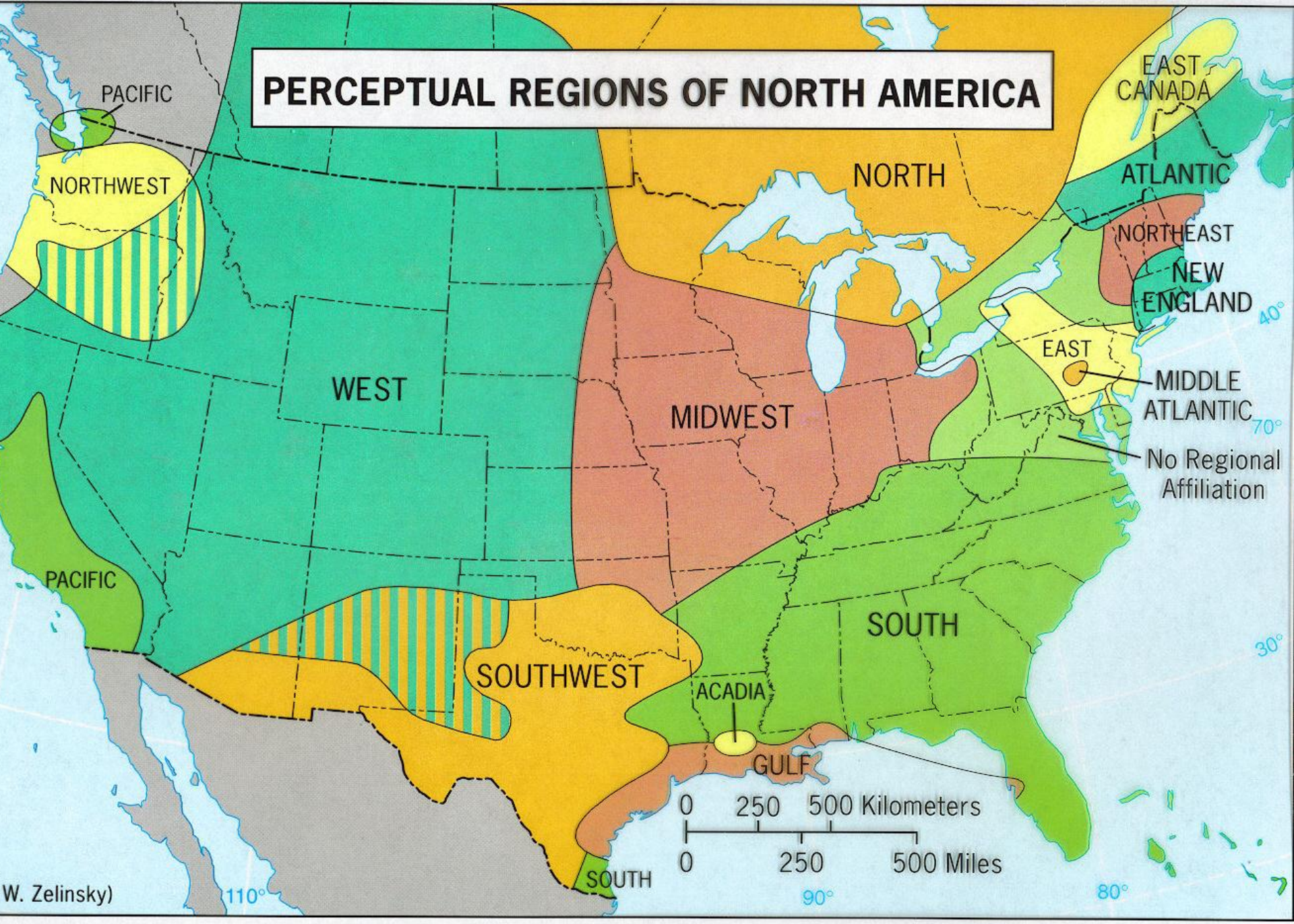


- **Acculturation-**immigrant populations take on enough of the values, attitudes and customs of the receiving society to function economically and socially.
- **Assimilation-**the complete blending with the host culture and the loss of most if not all of a groups previous distinctive ethnic traits.
- **Syncretism-**the process of fusing the immigrant culture with the native or adjacent culture. E.g. Haitian mix of Catholic and African voodoo religious practices, Tex-Mex cuisine in the Southwest.
- **Cultural convergence-**the sharing of technologies, cultural traits and artifacts among widely separated societies.

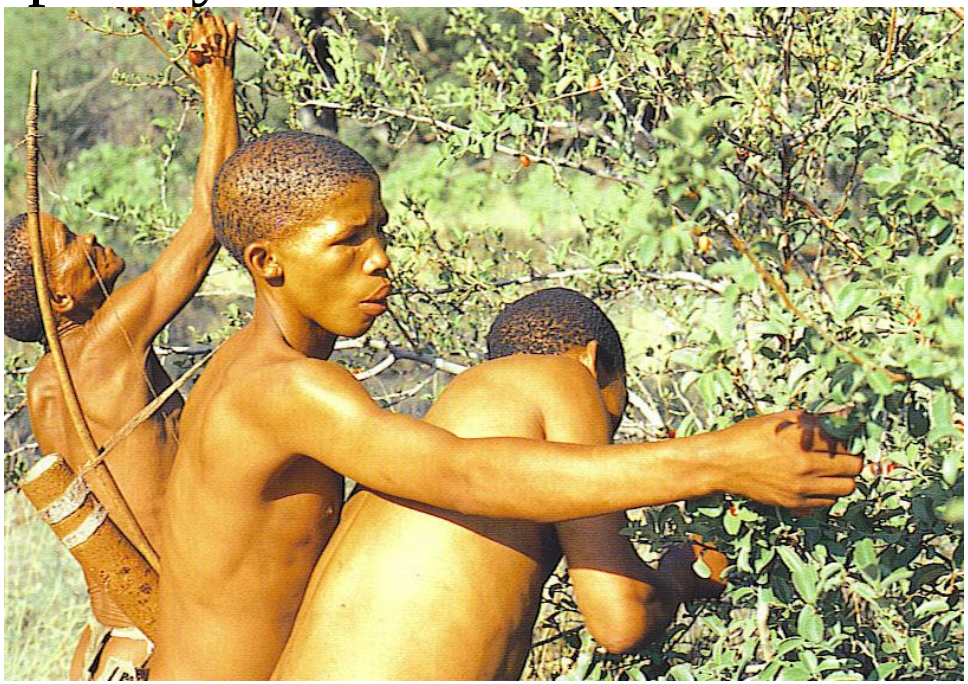


- **Cultural Hearth-**centers of innovation and invention, the center or cradle of a culture.

- **Cultural perceptions**-like perceptual regions, there are many intangible elements that define a region's personality.
- Consider the South as a Cultural Region;
  - Houses with porches
  - Foods like grits, greens and cornbread.
  - Drawl or dialects like Cajun.
  - Southern Baptist-Bible Belt
  - Slow pace of life and courtesy, hospitality.


PERCEPTUAL REGIONS OF NORTH AMERICA
PACIFIC
NORTHWEST
WEST
NORTH
EAST CANADA
ATLANTIC
NORTHEAST
NEW ENGLAND
EAST
MIDDLE ATLANTIC
MIDWEST
No Regional Affiliation
PACIFIC
SOUTH
SOUTHWEST
ACADIA
GULF
SOUTH
0 250 500 Kilometers
0 250 500 Miles
40°
70°
30°
110°
90°
80°
W. Zelinsky)

- **Sequent occupance-**refers to the process by which a landscape is gradually transformed by a succession of occupying populations.
- This cultural geography term was first coined by American geographer Derwent Whittlesey in 1929.
- He discussed the evolutionary and dynamic nature of the landscape as shaped by successive cultures and populations.



Cultural Diffusion

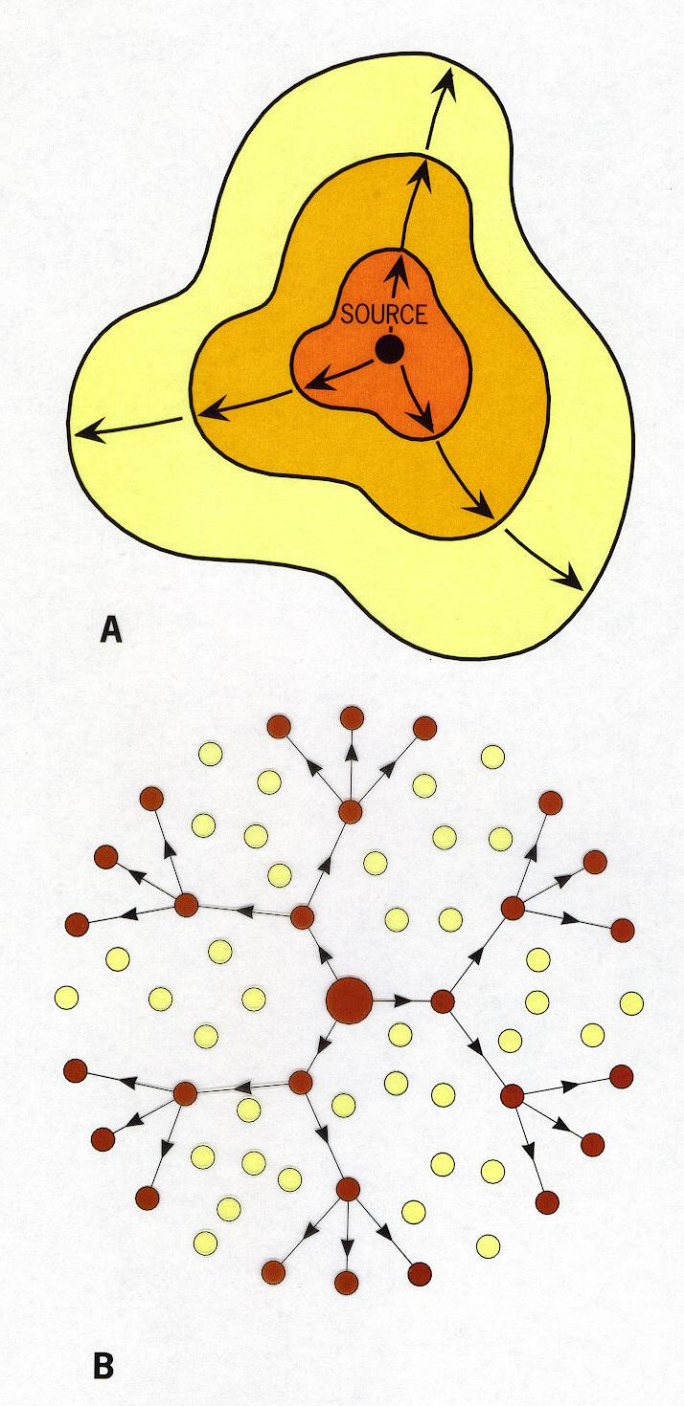
- Cultural diffusion or spatial diffusion is the spread of an idea or innovation from its source to other cultures.
- Diffusion occurs through the movement of people, goods or ideas.
- Carl Sauer focused on cultural diffusion in his book **Agricultural Origins and Dispersals** (1952)

Types of Diffusion

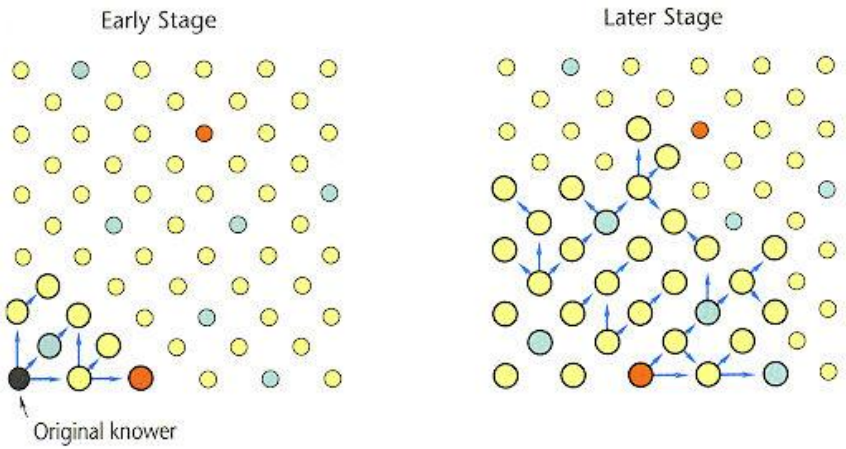
- There are two main types of Diffusion:
- **Expansion Diffusion**
  - The spread of an item or idea from one place to others. In the process it remains and often strengthens in the origin area.
    - **Contagious diffusion**-rapid widespread diffusion by direct contact. Affects all areas uniformly as it spreads outward. E.g. the spread of Islam.
    - **Hierarchical diffusion**-or cascade diffusion-the process of spreading ideas first between large cities and only later to smaller cities.
    - **Stimulus diffusion**-the spread of an underlying principle even though the main idea is not spread. E.g. industrialization
- **Relocation Diffusion**
  - The innovation or idea is physically carried to new areas by migrating individuals or populations. E.g. Christianity brought to the New World by missionaries and colonists.

A
Contagious Diffusion

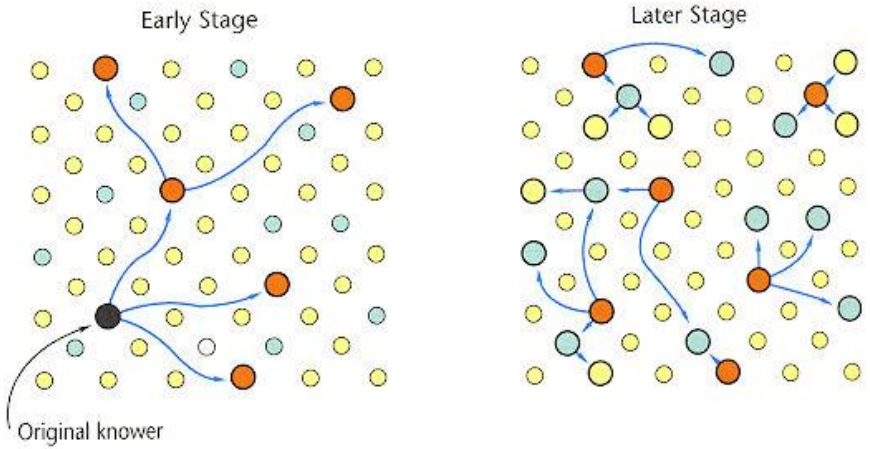
B
Hierarchical Diffusion



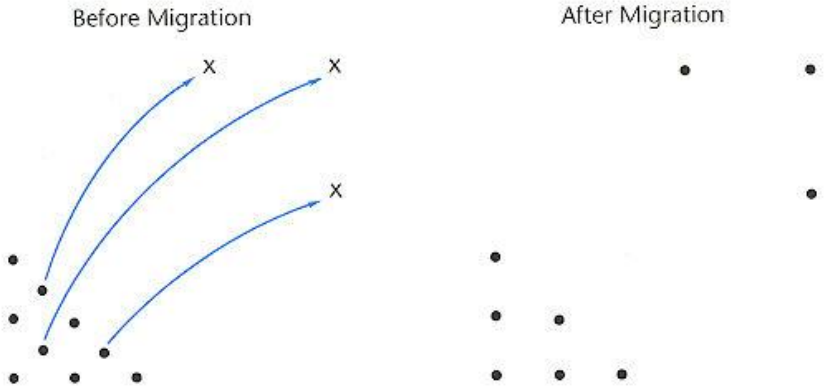
CONTAGIOUS EXPANSION DIFFUSION



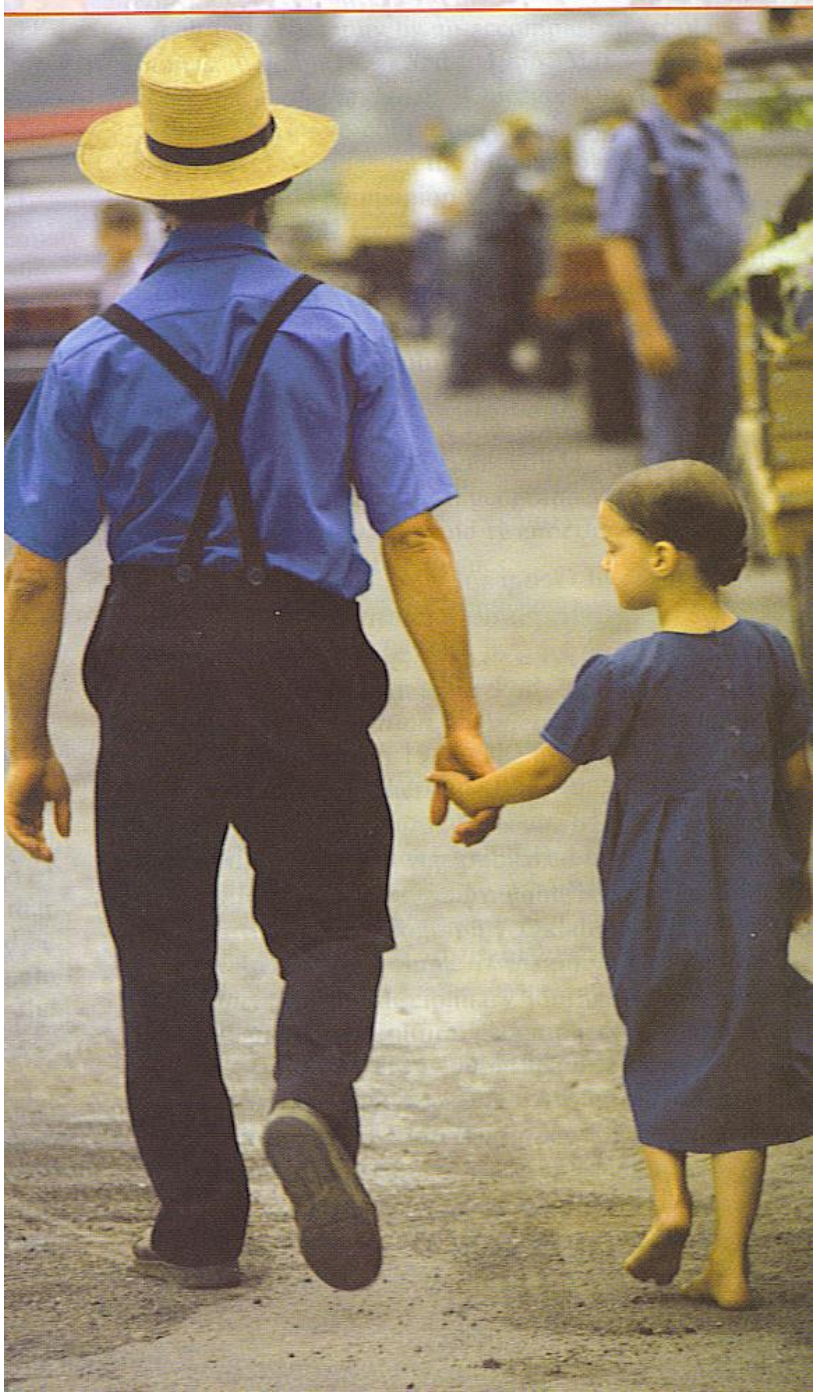
HIERARCHICAL EXPANSION DIFFUSION



RELOCATION DIFFUSION



Each circle or dot is one person or place.

- Nonknower
- Knower
- Path of diffusion
- "Very important" person or place
- "Important" person or place
- Person or place low in social-economic hierarchy

- Factors that delay diffusion:
  - **Time-distance decay**-the farther way and the longer it takes to reach an area, the less likely it will be adopted.
  - **Cultural barriers** may pose obstacles to cultural diffusion-taboos or religious beliefs.
  - **Cultural lag**-when a social group is economically or psychologically unresponsive to change.