

Summary and Review

KEY ISSUE 1

Where Are Folk and Popular Leisure Activities Distributed?

Culture can be divided into folk and popular culture. Leisure activities, such as music and sports, can be classified as folk or popular, depending on their characteristics.

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.1.1: Compare the origin, diffusion, and distribution of folk and popular culture.

- Folk culture is more likely to have an anonymous origin and to diffuse slowly through migration, whereas popular culture is more likely to be invented and diffuse rapidly with the use of modern communications.

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.1.2: Compare the characteristics of folk and popular music.

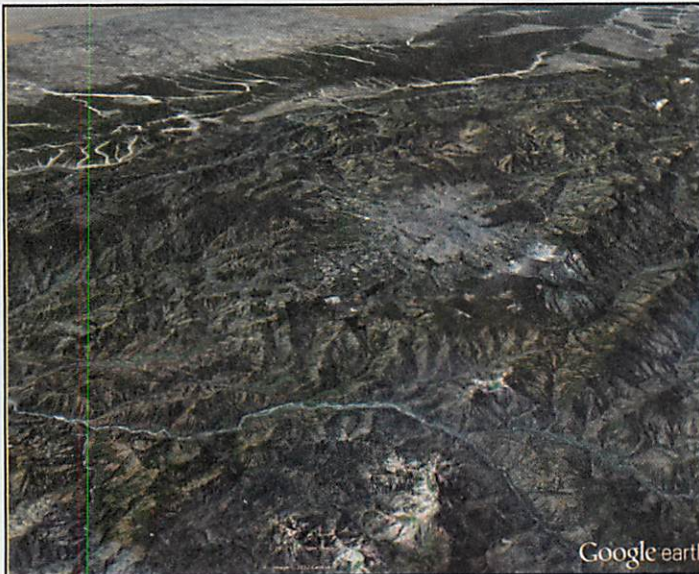
- Popular music has wide global distribution because of connections among artists and styles.

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.1.3: Describe how sports have been transformed from folk to popular culture.

- Sports that originated as isolated folk customs have been organized into popular culture with global distribution.

THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 4.1: In what ways might gender affect the distribution of leisure activities in folk or popular culture?

GOOGLE EARTH 4.1: Connections among Nepal's diverse folk culture groups are hindered by what feature of the physical environment? What does the white represent in the image of Nepal?



KEY ISSUE 2

Where Are Folk and Popular Material Culture Distributed?

Important elements of material culture include clothing, food, and shelter. Folk and popular material culture have different origins, patterns of diffusion, and distribution.

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.2.1: Compare reasons for distribution of clothing styles in folk and popular culture.

- Folk clothing is more likely to respond to environmental conditions and cultural values, whereas clothing styles vary more in time than in place.

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.2.2: Understand reasons for folk food preferences and taboos.

- Folk food culture is especially strongly embedded in environmental conditions.

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.2.3: Describe regional variations in popular food preferences.

- Popular food culture can display some regional variations.

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.2.4: Understand factors that influence patterns of folk housing.

- Folk housing styles, like other folk material culture, respond to environmental and cultural factors.

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.2.5: Understand variations in time and space of housing in the United States.

- U.S. housing has roots in folk culture, but newer housing displays features of popular culture.

THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 4.2: Which elements of material culture do countries depict in campaigns to promote tourism?

GOOGLE EARTH 4.2: Rudesheim, Germany, a wine-producing community, is surrounded by hillside vineyards. Towards which direction (east, west, north, or south) do most of these vineyards slope, and how does this orientation maximize exposure to sunlight?



Key Terms

Custom (p. 109) The frequent repetition of an act, to the extent that it becomes characteristic of the group of people performing the act.

Folk culture (p. 108) Culture traditionally practiced by a small, homogeneous, rural group living in relative isolation from other groups.

Habit (p. 109) A repetitive act performed by a particular individual.

Popular culture (p. 108) Culture found in a large, heterogeneous society that shares certain habits despite differences in other personal characteristics.

Taboo (p. 118) A restriction on behavior imposed by social custom.

Terroir (p. 118) The contribution of a location's distinctive physical features to the way food tastes.

KEY ISSUE 3

Why Is Access to Folk and Popular Culture Unequal?

Popular culture is diffused around the world through electronic media. TV was the dominant format in the twentieth century. Social media formats are expanding in the twenty-first century.

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.3.1: Describe the origin, diffusion, and distribution of TV around the world.

- TV diffused during the twentieth century from the United States to Europe and then to developing countries.

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.3.2: Compare the diffusion of the Internet and social media with the diffusion of TV.

- Diffusion of the Internet and of social media has followed the pattern of TV, but at a much faster rate.

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.3.3: Understand external and internal threats to folk culture posed by electronic media.

- Folk culture may be threatened by the dominance of popular culture in the media and by decreasing ability to control people's access to the media.

THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 4.3: Which elements of the physical environment are emphasized in the portrayal of places on TV?

GOOGLE EARTH 4.3: Kathmandu, Nepal, situated at the foot of rugged mountains, is one of the world's most physically isolated capitals. TripAdvisor considers BoudhaNath Stupa to be the top attraction in Kathmandu. Using the Find Business and ruler features of Google Earth, how far is it from the stupa to the nearest Internet café?



KEY ISSUE 4

Why Do Folk and Popular Culture Face Sustainability Challenges?

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.4.1: Summarize challenges for folk culture from diffusion of popular culture.

- Popular culture threatens traditional elements of cultural identity in folk culture.

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.4.2: Summarize the two principal ways that popular culture can adversely affect the environment.

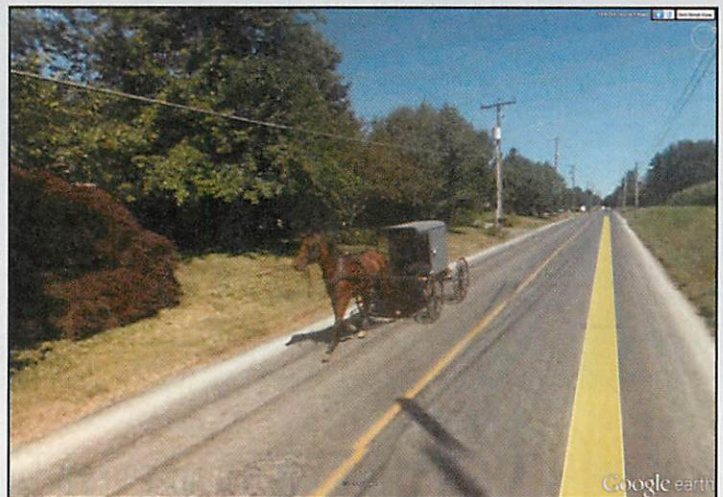
- Popular culture can deplete scarce resources and pollute the landscape.

LEARNING OUTCOME 4.4.3: Summarize major sources of waste and the extent to which each is recycled.

- Paper is the principal source of solid waste before recycling, but plastics and food waste are the leading sources after recycling.

THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 4.4: Are there examples of groups in North America besides the Amish that have successfully resisted the diffusion of popular culture?

GOOGLE EARTH 4.4: Paradise, Pennsylvania, is in the heart of Amish country. If you fly to 269 Old Leacock Road in Paradise and drag to street view, what distinctive feature of Amish culture is visible?



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