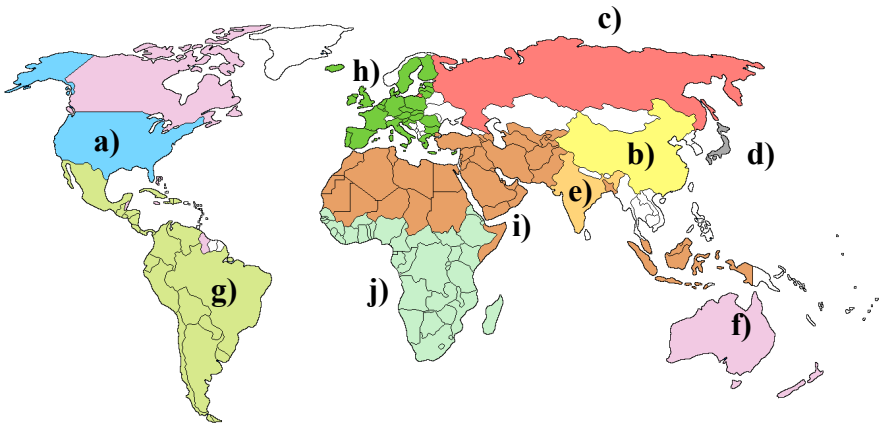
Part 1: The World We Live In

1. Name all the labeled major cultural blocks indicated that are part of the world we live in, and answer the prompts in the briefest way you can.



a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

g) _____

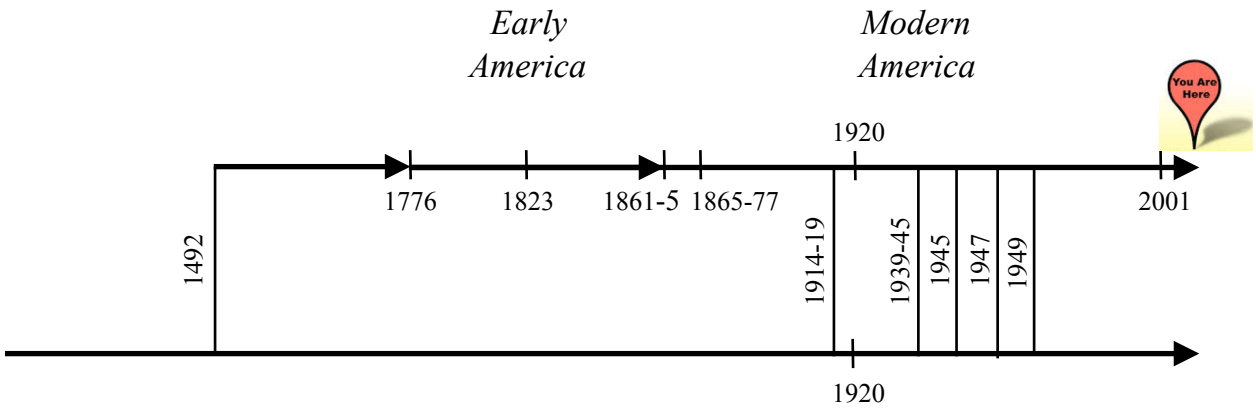
h) _____

i) _____

j) _____

Part 2: The Anchor Facts of America and the World We Live In

2. Use the following timeline to answer questions on the next page.



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a) What two anchor facts explain the state of American-European interconnection after World War I?

b) What anchor fact symbolizes America's acceptance of *internationalism* after World War II?

c) *Early America* had a strange combination of political values. What part did America inherit from the rest of the world? What part was newly announced in 1776, and how? How was the contradiction between these values resolved? What new set of values was injected into American culture thereafter, and how?

d) Political interconnection between America and Europe is a feature of life in *Modern American* history. Use the anchor facts to explain how this *gradually* came about through America's experience of the World Wars.

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Part 3: Interconnectivity

3. What does it mean to say that things are *interconnected.* How does the structure of the word itself help us to grasp its meaning? Give three examples from your personal life or from the news about how America is connected to other cultural blocks in *different* ways.

4. Why is it difficult to grasp the meaning of the term "Western Civilization"? What cultural blocks make up "Western Civilization" today? India is a *democracy,* and China has adopted *communism.* What process of cultural interaction are these a symbol of? What is in fact true of the entire interconnected world?

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Part 4: The Discovery of America

5. What are the facets of the modern controversy about Christopher Columbus's voyage of 1492? How does the need to understand the world we live in determine what event to designate as "*the* discovery of America"?

6. Why did Columbus want to find a route to Asia? Why a *new* route? When did he realize that his explorations had yielded a completely unexpected result of great significance?

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