

# Period 6 Key Concepts: Accelerating Global Change and Realignments

## c. 1900 C.E. to Present

*Note: If it's in the Key Concepts, then it's fair game for tests and quizzes. This is the FIRST place you should look before you begin studying! Use this as a guide and framework for everything that you do in class.*

### Key Concept 6.1 – Science and the Environment

### Student Annotations

Rapid advances in science altered the understanding of the universe and the natural world and led to the development of new technologies. These changes enabled unprecedented population growth, which altered how humans interacted with the environment and threatened delicate ecological balances at local, regional, and global levels.

#### **I. Researchers made rapid advances in science that spread throughout the world, assisted by the development of new technology.**

- A. New modes of communication—including the internet, radio communication, and cellular communication—and transportation virtually eliminated the problem of geographic distance.
- B. The Green Revolution and commercial agriculture increased productivity and sustained the earth's growing population as it spread chemically and genetically modified forms of agriculture.
- C. Medical innovations such as vaccines and antibiotics increased the ability of humans to survive and live longer lives.
- D. Energy technologies including the use of petroleum and nuclear power raised productivity and increased the production of material goods.

#### **II. During a period of unprecedented global population expansion, humans fundamentally changed their interactions with the environment.**

- A. As human activity contributed to deforestation, desertification, and increased consumption of the world's supply of fresh water and clean air, humans competed over these and other resources more intensely than ever before.
- B. The release of greenhouse gases and other pollutants into the atmosphere contributed to debates about the nature and causes of climate change.

#### **III. Disease, scientific innovations, and conflict led to demographic shifts.**

- A. Diseases associated with poverty persisted, while other diseases emerged as new epidemics and threats to human survival. In addition, increased longevity led to a higher incidence of certain diseases. (Examples of diseases associated with poverty: malaria, tuberculosis, cholera; Examples of emergent epidemic diseases: 1918 influenza pandemic, Ebola, HIV/AIDS; Examples of diseases associated with changing lifestyles: diabetes, heart disease, Alzheimer's disease)
- B. More effective forms of birth control gave women greater control over fertility and transformed sexual practices.
- C. New military technology and new tactics and the waging of "total war" led to increased levels of wartime casualties. (Examples of improved military technology: tanks, airplanes, the atomic bomb; illustrative examples of new military tactics: trench warfare, firebombing; illustrative examples of wartime casualties: Nanjing, Dresden, Hiroshima)

Key Concept 6.2 – Global Conflicts and their Consequences	Student Annotations
<p>At the beginning of the twentieth century, a European-dominated global political order existed, which also included the United States, Russia, and Japan. Over the course of the century, peoples and states around the world challenged this order in ways that sought to redistribute power within the existing order and to restructure empires, while those peoples and states in power attempted to maintain the status quo. Other peoples and states sought to overturn the political order itself. These challenges to, and the attempts to maintain, the political order manifested themselves in an unprecedented level of conflict with high human casualties. In the context of these conflicts, many regimes in both older and newer states struggled with maintaining political stability and were challenged by internal and external factors, including ethnic and religious conflicts, <u>secessionist movements</u>, territorial <u>partitions</u>, economic dependency, and the legacies of colonialism.</p> <p><b>I. Europe dominated the global political order at the beginning of the twentieth century, but both land-based and transoceanic empires gave way to new states by the century’s end.</b></p> <p>A. The older land-based Ottoman, Russian, and Qing empires collapsed due to a combination of internal and external factors. <i>(Examples of internal and external factors: political and social discontent, technological and economic stagnation, military defeat)</i></p> <p>B. Between the two world wars, European imperial states often maintained control over their colonies and in some cases gained additional territories.</p> <p>C. After the end of World War II, some colonies negotiated their independence, while other colonies achieved independence through armed struggle. <i>(Examples of negotiated independence: India from the British Empire, Gold Coast from the British Empire, French West Africa; examples of independence through armed struggle: Algeria and Vietnam from the French Empire, Angola from the Portuguese Empire, Kenya from the British Empire, the Mau Mau rebellion against the British Empire)</i></p> <p><b>II. Emerging ideologies of anti-imperialism contributed to the dissolution of empires and the restructuring of states.</b></p> <p>A. <u>Nationalist</u> leaders and parties in Asia and Africa sought varying degrees of <u>autonomy</u> within or independence from imperial rule. <i>(Examples of nationalist leaders and parties: Indian National Congress (INC), Ho Chi Minh in French Indochina (Vietnam), Kwame Nkrumah in British Gold Coast (Ghana)).</i></p> <p>B. Regional, religious, and ethnic movements challenged both colonial rule and inherited imperial boundaries. <i>(Examples of regional, religious and ethnic movements: the Muslim League in British India, the Quebecois separatist movement in Canada, the Biafra secessionist movement in Nigeria)</i></p> <p>C. Transnational movements sought to unite people across national boundaries. <i>(Examples of transnational movements: <u>communism</u>, <u>pan-Arabism</u>, <u>pan-Africanism</u>)</i></p> <p>D. The Mexican Revolution arose in opposition to <u>neocolonialism</u> and economic imperialism, and movements to redistribute land and resources developed within states in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, sometimes advocating communism or socialism.</p> <p>E. In many parts of the world, religious movements sought to redefine the relationship between the individual and the state.</p> <p><b>III. Political changes were accompanied by major demographic and social consequences.</b></p>	

- A. The redrawing of old colonial boundaries led to population displacement and/or resettlements, such as the partitioning of India and Pakistan and population displacements following the creation of the state of Israel.
- B. The migration of former colonial subjects to imperial metropolises (the former colonizing country, usually in the major cities) maintained cultural and economic ties between the colony and the metropole even after the dissolution of empires. *(Examples of such migrations: South Asians to Britain, Algerians to France, Filipinos to the U.S.)*
- C. The rise of extremist groups in power led to the annihilation of specific populations, notably in the Holocaust during World War II and other forms of atrocities, acts of genocide, or ethnic violence. *(Examples of genocide or ethnic violence: Armenians in Turkey during and after WWI, Cambodia during the late 1970s, Tutsi in Rwanda in the 1990s)*

#### IV. Military conflicts occurred on an unprecedented global scale.

- A. World War I and World War II were the first total wars. Governments used a variety of strategies, including political propaganda, art, media, and intensified forms of nationalism, to mobilize populations (in both the home countries and the colonies or former colonies) for the purpose of waging war. Governments used ideologies including fascism and communism, to mobilize all of their state's resources for war and, in the case of totalitarian states, to direct many aspects of daily life during the course of the conflicts and beyond.
- B. The sources of global conflict in the first half of the century varied and included imperialist expansion by European powers and Japan, competition for resources, the economic crisis engendered by the Great Depression, and the rise of fascist and totalitarian regimes to positions of power.
- C. The global balance of economic and political power shifted after the end of World War II and rapidly evolved into the Cold War. The democracy of the United States and the communist Soviet Union emerged as superpowers, which led to ideological struggles between capitalism and communism across the globe. This conflict extended to beyond its basic ideological origins to have profound effects on economic, political, social, and cultural aspects of global events.
- D. The Cold War produced new military alliances, including NATO and the Warsaw Pact, and promoted proxy wars between and within postcolonial states in Latin America, Africa, and Asia.
- E. Expansions in U.S. military spending and technological development, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and economic weakness in communist countries led to the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union.

#### V. Although conflict dominated much of the twentieth century, many individuals and groups — including states — opposed this trend. Some individuals and groups, however, intensified the conflicts.

- A. Groups and individuals challenged the many wars of the century, and some such as Mohandas Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela, promoted the practice of nonviolence as a way to bring about political change.

- B. Groups and individuals, including the Non-Aligned Movement, opposed and promoted alternatives to the existing economic, political, and social orders. *(Examples of groups and individuals opposing or promoting alternatives: the Anti-Apartheid Movement in South Africa, participants in the global uprisings of 1968, the Tiananmen Square protesters that promoted democracy in China)*
- C. Militaries and militarized states often responded to the proliferation of conflicts in ways that further intensified conflict. *(Examples of responses that intensified conflicts: promotion of military dictatorship in Chile, Spain, and Uganda; buildup of the “military-industrial complex” and weapons trading)*
- D. More movements used violence against civilians to achieve political aims. *(Movements who used violence: IRA, ETA, Al-Qaeda)*

### Key Concept 6.3 – New Conceptualization of Global Economy, Society, and Culture

### Student Annotations

The twentieth century witnessed a great deal of warfare and the collapse of the global economy in the 1930s. In response to these challenges, the role of state in the domestic economy fluctuated, and new institutions of global governance emerged and continued to develop throughout the century. Scientific breakthroughs, new technologies, increasing levels of integration, changing relationships between humans and the environment, and the frequency of political conflict all contributed to global developments in which people crafted new understandings of society, culture, and historical interpretations. Institutions of global governance both shaped and adapted to these social conditions.

#### I. States responded in a variety of ways to the economic challenges of the twentieth century.

- A. In communist states, such as the Soviet Union and China, governments controlled their national economies, often through repressive policies with negative repercussions for their populations. *(Example of Communist governments controlling their national economies: Five-Year Plans in the Soviet Union, Great Leap Forward in China)*
- B. Following World War I and the onset of the Great Depression, governments began to take a more active role in economic life. *(Examples of government intervention in the economy: New Deal, Fascist corporatist economy, Populist governments of Brazil and Mexico)*
- C. In newly independent states after World War II, governments often took on a strong role in guiding economic life to promote development. *(Examples governments guiding economic life: Nasser’s promotion of economic development in Egypt, Nehru’s planned economy in India, Julius Nyere in Tanzania)*
- D. In a trend accelerated by the end of the Cold War, many governments encouraged free-market economic policies and promoted economic liberalization in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. *(Examples of governments encouraging free-market policies: U.S. beginning with Ronald Reagan, Britain under Margaret Thatcher, China under Deng Xiaoping, Chile under Pinochet, Pacific Rim nations, Korea, Vietnam)*
- E. In the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, revolutions in information and communications technology led to the growth of knowledge economies in some regions, while industrial production and manufacturing were increasingly situated in developing economies including the Pacific Rim and Latin America. *(Examples of Pacific Rim economies: Japan, Korea, Singapore, China, Vietnam)*

II. **States, communities, and individuals became increasingly interdependent, a process facilitated by the growth of institutions of global governance.**

- A. New international organizations formed to maintain world peace and to facilitate international cooperation. (*Examples of new international organizations: League of Nations, United Nations, International Criminal Court*)
- B. Changing economic institutions and regional trade agreements reflected the spread of principles and practices associated with free-market economies throughout the world. (*Examples of changing economic institutions: International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, World Trade Organization (WTO), Multi-national corporations; Examples of regional trade agreements: The European Economic Community (EEC), North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Mercosur*)
- C. Movements throughout the world protested the inequality of environmental and economic consequences of global integration. (*Examples: Greenpeace, the Green Belt Movement in Kenya, Earth Day*)

III. **People conceptualized society and culture in new ways; rights-based discourses challenged old assumptions about race, class, gender, and religion. In much of the world, access to education, as well as participation in new political and professional roles, became more inclusive in terms of these factors.**

Illustrative examples of challenges to assumptions about race, class, gender, and religion: U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights especially as it sought to protect the rights of children, women, and refugees, global feminist movements, negritude movement, liberation theology in Latin America, Islamic renewal movements in Egypt and Saudi Arabia

Illustrative examples of increased access to education and political and professional roles: the right to vote and to hold public office granted to women in the US (1920), Brazil (1932), Turkey (1934), Japan (1945), India (1947), and Morocco (1963); the rising rate of female literacy and the increasing numbers of women in higher education, in most parts of the world, the US Civil Rights Act of 1965, the end of apartheid, caste and reservation in the Indian Constitution of 1950.

IV. **Political and social changes of the 20<sup>th</sup> century led to changes in the arts and literature. In the second half of the century, popular and consumer culture became more global.** (Examples of global culture: reggae, Bollywood, World Cup soccer, the Olympics)

**ADDITIONAL STUDENT NOTES:**

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