

**AP Human Geography**  
**Unit IV. Political Organization of Space**

**Outline with Corresponding Multiple Choice Questions**

***IV. Political Organization of Space***

***A. Territorial dimensions of politics (118)***

***1. Concept of territoriality (9, 10, 11)***

- a. Control of territory
  - City-states, empires, and frontiers (1, 2, 3, 4)
- b. Territorial morphology
  - Compact, elongated, fragmented, prorupted, and perforated states (12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24)
- c. Exclaves & enclaves (24, 25, 26, 27, 28)
- d. Landlocked states (29, 30, 31)
- e. Micro-states (32, 33)
- f. Stateless nations (34, 35)

***2. The nature and meaning of boundaries***

- a. Evolution of boundaries
  - Definition, delimitation, and demarcation
- b. Types of boundaries
  - Physical: mountains, deserts, & water bodies (40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46)
  - Cultural: geometric, religious, linguistic, & ideological (47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56)
- c. Origin-based classification of boundaries (57)
  - Antecedent, subsequent, superimposed, & relict (58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65)
- d. Buffer states (73, 74, 75)

***3. Influences of boundaries on identity, interaction, and exchange (76, 77)***

- a. Boundary disputes (36, 37, 38, 66)
  - Definitional, locational, & operational (67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 78, 79)
- b. Case studies: U.S.A./Mexico, St Lawrence Seaway, Berlin Wall (98, 99)

***4. Federal and unitary states***

- a. Unitary states
  - Advantages & disadvantages (101, 102)
  - Case studies
- b. Federal states (103, 104)
  - Advantages & disadvantages
  - Case studies: United States, France, & Poland
- c. Confederations? (105)
  - Canada & Switzerland
- d. Core areas & multi-core areas (106)

- e. Capital cities (107, 108, 109, 110)
- f. Centripetal & Centrifugal forces (114, 115, 116, 117)
- 5. *Spatial relationships between political patterns, and patterns of ethnicity, economy, and environment*
  - a. Case studies:
    - Africa and the Berlin Conference
    - The changing boundaries of Europe (131, 132, 133)
    - Nigeria
    - The partition of India

**B. Evolution of the contemporary political pattern**

- 1. *The nation-state concept*
  - a. Rise of the modern state (the European model) (80, 81, 82, 83)
  - b. Stateless nations (9)
- 2. *Colonialism and imperialism (85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90)*
  - a. Geographical dimensions and implications (39, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95)
  - b. Independence movements and the changing political landscape (84, 96, 97, 100)
- 3. *Democratization*
  - a. Definition
  - b. Causes (138)
  - c. Geographical factors
  - d. Trends since the 1970s
  - e. Case studies: sub-Saharan Africa & North Africa

**C. Challenges to inherited political-territorial arrangements**

- 1. *Changing nature of sovereignty (7, 8)*
  - a. Elements of a state (5, 6)
  - b. How many states are there?
  - c. China/Taiwan dilemma (119)
  - d. Role of globalization and state power (120, 121)
- 2. *Fragmentation, unification, and alliance*
  - a. Fragmentation
  - b. Unification
  - c. Alliances (136)
- 3. *Supranationalism and devolution*
  - a. Devolution (113, 122, 123)
    - Case studies: Great Britain, Yugoslavia, Soviet Union, etc. (111, 112)
  - b. Supranationalism (124, 125, 126, 127)
    - Case studies: European Union, NAFTA, etc. (128, 129, 130)
- 4. *Electoral geography, including gerrymandering*
  - a. Multiple municipalities
  - b. Gerrymandering (134)
    - Excess, wasted, & stacked (135)
- 5. *Terrorism (138)*
  - a. Definition of terrorism?
  - b. Types of terrorism

- International, domestic, state, and subnational
- c. State strategies for dealing with terrorism
- d. Implications for political geography?