

CANDIDATE NUMBER: SIGNATURE.....



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UNIVERSITY OF GHANA
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INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING AND DISTANCE EDUCATION

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS: 2014/2015

GEOG. 325/305: THEORY AND PRACTICE OF GEOGRAPHY (3 CREDITS)

INSTRUCTIONS

- TIME ALLOWED IS TWO AND HALF HOURS (2 ½ HRS)
- Answer ALL questions in Section A on the Question Paper, and TWO questions from section B in the Answer Booklet

SECTION A

1. *"In place of objectivity, a host of legends fancies and false theories became the basis of geographical thought and the truth was branded as heretical"* The statement above is associated with development of Geographic thought during the period
 - a. Classical
 - b. Medieval
 - c. Pre-Classical
 - d. Modern
2. While Kant gave geography a theoretical justification, it was Alex von Humboldt and Carl Ritter who laid the scientific foundations for geography as a branch of knowledge.
 - a. True
 - b. False
3. *The role of Geography was to describe the earth and its different places, and in such descriptions both humanity and nature would play a role"*. The above statement dating as far back as 64 BC- 20AD is attributed to
 - a. Kant
 - b. Strabo
 - c. Carl Ritter
 - d. Alexander von Humboldt

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4. According to One of the primary concerns of geography is "to try to give, in the simplest possible way, the shape and size of that part of the earth which falls within our map, indicating at the same time, what the nature of that part is and what portion it is of the whole earth; for this is the task proper of the geographer"

- a. Strabo
- b. Kant
- c. Carl Ritter
- d. Varenus
- e. Alexander von Humboldt

5. "Geography, in addition to its vast importance to social life and the art of government...acquaints us with the occupants of the land and ocean and the vegetation, fruits, and peculiarities of the various quarters of the earth". The original ideas for this statement by Kant derive from the writings of

- a. Varenus
- b. Strabo
- c. Ian Burton
- d. Carl Ritter

6. Geography is a discipline that

- a. seeks to understand why places vary from one another
- b. supports environmental determinism
- c. can be perceived as a science of relationship between the natural environment and human activities
- d. can be considered as a method that helps geographers to understand the relationships among features

7. Which of the following activities may best follow in the closest sequence in adoption of the Scientific Method in Geography?

- a. Hypothesis/Replication
- b. Predictions/Repetition
- c. Repetition/Observation
- d. Observation/Hypothesis

8. In William Bunge's book Theoretical Geography (1962), he contends that "...the basic approach to geography is to assume that geography is a strict science and then to proceed to examine the substantive results of such assumption".

- a. True
- b. False.

9. The outlook of Geography before the Quantitative Revolution may be comprehensively described as:

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- a. Educational/Law-making
- b. Descriptive/Systematic
- c. Ideographic/Descriptive
- d. Nomothetic/Ideographic

10. Write down any two major (2) criticisms against the Quantitative Revolution

- i).....
-
- ii).....
-

11. The greatest application of quantitative methods has been concentrated in a few subfields of geography excluding

- a. Economic geography
- b. Urban geography
- c. Historical geography
- d. Physical geography

12. The scientific method involves....

- a. intellectual debate
- b. specific logical procedures
- c. defending beliefs
- d. human imaginations

13 According to David Harvey, scientific explanation can be achieved only through the Inductive pathway.

- a. True
- b. False.

14. The distinguishing vocabulary of Harvey's Deductive Pathway of Scientific Explanation is

- a. Hypothesis
- b. Unordered facts
- c. Perceptual experiences
- d. Analysis
- e. Ordered facts

15. The development of theories as free creations of the human mind is at the heart of all Explanations

- a. True
- b. False

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16. Geographers often argue that law making is possible in the physical science but irrelevant in human geography.

- a. True
- b. False

17.. The radical intellectual debate which marked the turning point in geography during the period 1950 to 1960 is referred to as the

18. Which of the following sequence of activities may best be associated with the Scientific Method in Geography?

- a. Observation/Hypothesis
- b. Hypothesis/Replication
- c. Predictions/Repetition
- d. Repetition/Observation

19. Provide the correct geographical theme associated with each of the following questions

- a. How can places be grouped?
- b. How are places connected or linked?
- c. Where is it?
- d. What is there?
- e. Why is it like this?

SECTION B

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1. There cannot be any real separation between systematic and regional geography. Elaborate on this statement with viewpoints from key exponents of the discipline during the pre-classical and classical periods.
2. Provide a convincing account of the Quantitative Revolution in Geography. How has the revolution contributed to the scientific status of the discipline?
3. *To what extent would you consider the discipline of Geography a science?
4. Discuss Hägerstrand's model of *innovation diffusion* as a *spatial process* and show its major shortcomings
5. Walter Christaller's Central Place theory is based on unrealistic assumptions. Comment.