

Directions: This guided reading covers Chapter 5 (Rubenstein) and Chapter 6 (de Blij). Follow the page guidance in order to complete this organizer. The manner in which the material below is organized does not necessarily match the order that it is presented in the chapter.

Rubenstein p 148 (Languages & Geography), de Blij p 180 – 181 (What is a Language?)

1. What is a language? _____

- a. What standard do many geography texts apply when determining whether someone is speaking a distinct “language”? Define. _____

- i. What opinion do linguists have of this standard? _____
- ii. What are two examples of why this standard is weak.
 - _____

 - _____

de Blij (Language Formation p 184 – 185, 193 – 194 and Dialects p 180 – 181) This has been reorganized for your benefit, read completely THEN follow the page guidance carefully.

2. According to de Blij, what is the process by which new languages are formed because spatial interaction between speakers has broken down (p 185)? _____
- a. What is the first step of language formation that happens as languages diverge (p 184)? _____
 - i. After the above, what do languages fragment into (p 185)? _____
 - ii. What is a dialect (p 180)? Include differences. _____

 - What is a dialect chain? _____

 - What is an isogloss? _____

- b. What technique is used to trace the above changes back to an extinct common ancestral language (de Blij p 185)? _____

3. What term refers to the general process in which two languages combine to form a new language (de Blij p 185)? _____
 - i. What must speakers of two different languages have for this to happen? _____
 - ii. (de Blij p 193 – 194) Two different levels of convergence will result. They are:
 - What is a pidgin language (de Blij p 193)? _____

 - What is a creole language (de Blij p 194, **DO NOT USE the Rubenstein, it is wrong!**)? _____

Rubenstein p 149 (Organizing Languages)

4. In what three ways can the world’s languages be organized?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
5. According to *Ethnologue*, how many languages are spoken in the world (round to the nearest thousand)? _____
6. On the following page you will find a chart and map summarizing Indo-European Languages. Using both the written text on Rubenstein p 154 – 155, the language tree on p 153, and de Blij Figure 6.2 complete the chart by inserting INDIVIDUAL LANGUAGES in the last column and color code the map based on LANGUAGE BRANCHES.)

Rubenstein p 158 – 159 (The Origin and Diffusion of the Indo-European Language Family)

8. How does the Romance branch of Indo-European demonstrate the concepts of language convergence and divergence?

9. Based on linguistic analysis, what is assumed about the geographic hearth of the Indo-European language family? Why?

10. Complete chart comparing the theories regarding the origin and diffusion of the Indo-European language family.

Theory on the origin of Indo-European	Nomadic Warrior Thesis (de Blij p 187 calls this the _____ Theory)	Sedentary Farmer Thesis de Blij = "agriculture theory"
Proposed by		
Hearth		
Dates of migration		
Path of migration		
How did the diffusion happen?		

Rubenstein p 160 – 161 (Origin and Diffusion of English)

11. Complete the timeline below to detail how English was formed. You should comprehend how these different events are representative of language divergence and convergence.

When?	Contributing group(s)	Impact on England/Dev. of English (Convergence/Divergence?)
2000 BC		original language overtaken by Romans and later Germanic invasions in AD 450 To where were they pushed?
A.D. 450		Why did English diverge from other Germanic languages?
9 th century		
A.D. 1066		What was the official language? For how long? Who spoke it? Who spoke English? What did this result in? How is this reflected in the words we use?

12. To where and how did English diffuse over the course of the most recent four centuries? _____

Rubenstein p 166 – 167 (English Dialects)

13. What are the three ways that American English differs from that spoken in England?

- a. _____ b. _____ c. _____
i. Who contributed many new words to American English? _____

14. What is a “standard language”? _____

- a. What is the standard language for England? _____
i. Where and among whom did this originate? _____

Rubenstein p 168 – 169 (U.S. Dialects)

15. What are the four dialect regions in the U.S.? _____

- a. What is responsible for the differences found in the original three eastern dialect regions? _____
i. Which of the dialects above became the standard pronunciation of a majority of Americans? _____
b. What is “bidialect” and why would some people exhibit its characteristics? _____
c. What is AAVE? Why is its use controversial (be sure to include both sides of the argument)? _____

Rubenstein p 164 (Official Languages), p 170 – 171 (Dialect or Language?)/de Blij p 194 (Official Languages)

16. How are official languages used (p 164)? _____

- a. What are the six official languages used by the United Nations? _____
b. (de Blij p 194) What is often adopted in former colonies as the official language? What are two reasons for this?
i. Under what category would *Ethnologue* classify these types of languages (p 149)? _____
c. What factors have led to the strengthening of standard languages and the suppression of dialects (p 170)?
i. What tension does this reflect? _____
d. Why would a government designate one dialect as the standard or official language (p 171)? _____
e. How is English different from other Indo-European languages like French and Russian and more similar to languages spoken on the Austronesian, Turkic and Uralic language families?
i. What is an exception to this pattern within English? _____
ii. How could the Russian/French manner be a problem in the modern world (think about this)? _____

Rubenstein p 162 – 163 (Sharing Languages)

17. What is the most important language for international communication? _____

- a. What has facilitated by its dominance? _____

18. What is lingua franca? _____

- a. Why do people on smaller countries feel the need to learn English? _____
i. How many students in the EU learn English as a second language? _____
b. Besides English, what are some other significant modern lingua franca languages? _____

- c. In what other area of communication is dominated by English? _____
 i. What is the trend regarding English and the internet? _____

Rubenstein p 174 – 181 (Why Do Languages Survive or Perish?)

19. What is an **endangered** language? _____
 a. For this classification what is the most important factor? _____
 b. Why would a language be considered “dying”? _____
 c. Where are the largest number of “dying” languages clustered? _____
 i. How does this correlate with the existence of institutional languages? _____
20. What is an **“isolated”** language? _____
 i. How could an isolated language be judged as “vibrant/sustainable”? _____
 ii. What is the sole example of a vibrant isolated language in Europe? _____
 • Where is it spoken? _____
 • How did isolation help preserve it? _____
 iii. How has isolation affect Icelandic? _____
21. What is an **extinct** language? _____
 a. How is language extinction a function of globalization? _____
22. Describe some of the methods that have been used to preserve endangered languages (read the section on the Celtic languages and list some of the methods being used). _____

23. Why is Hebrew an exception to a typical extinct language? _____

 a. By what term do we call a language that has gone through this process? _____

de Blij p 197 – 200 (What Role Does Language Play in Making Places?)

24. List the ten different types of toponyms? _____

25. Complete the following chart detailing four common reasons why toponyms change.

Reason	Explanation (What is the goal of this toponym change?)	Examples
Post-Colonial		
Post-Revolution		
Memorial		
Commodification		

Rubenstein p 172 – 173 (Multilingual Places)

26. What is a monolingual state (de Blij p 194)? List some examples _____

27. What are multilingual states? _____

28. Provide details on multilingual states.

Countries	Languages/regions	Discuss strategies that have been used to deal with multilingualism within these states. Do the divisions correlate with other factors? What has been the level of success? What does the future hold for these countries?
Switzerland		
Belgium		
Nigeria		
Canada		