

MAPS GROUP DISCUSSION ACTIVITY

Name: _____

Part One ~ Directions: On your own, look at each of the maps in the provided list. Choose three maps to examine more closely, and answer the following prompts about them.

Map: _____ (year produced)

What did you notice first about this map:

Does anything about this map confuse you? If so, what?

Choose one aspect of the map (a picture, piece of text, decorative style, the shape of the map, etc.) that might tell you something about the mapmaker's worldview and/or the map's purpose:

- Describe the aspect:

- What does this aspect tell you about the map's purpose/audience or maker's worldview?

Map: _____ (year produced)

What did you notice first about this map:

Does anything about this map confuse you? If so, what?

Choose one aspect of the map (a picture, piece of text, decorative style, the shape of the map, etc.) that might tell you something about the mapmaker's worldview and/or the map's purpose:

- Describe the aspect:

- What does this aspect tell you about the map's purpose/audience or maker's worldview?

Map: _____ (year produced)

What did you notice first about this map:

Does anything about this map confuse you? If so, what?

Choose one aspect of the map (a picture, piece of text, decorative style, the shape of the map, etc.) that might tell you something about the mapmaker's worldview and/or the map's purpose:

- Describe the aspect:

- What does this aspect tell you about the map's purpose/audience or maker's worldview?

Part Two ~ Directions: In small groups (3 to 5 students are recommended), discuss the following questions. At least one person in the group should make notes about what was said and/or concluded for each question.

1. Each group member share a little about one of the maps they examined for the worksheet. Whose map does the group find to be the most interesting and/or confusing?

2. Using the maps in the room, identify and discuss some examples of cultural worldviews (beliefs and values) affecting how a cartographer made their map.

3. Identify and discuss evidence of technological advances affecting the maps in the room.

4. If you were to make a map of the world, how do you think your own values and beliefs would affect your map?