

PARALLEL PENINSULAS

GRADE LEVEL: Middle School

SUBJECT: Geography, Social Studies

TIME REQUIRED: Two to three class periods

OBJECTIVES:

As a result of this lesson, students will:

1. Identify geographic factors which have an impact on human populations.
2. Develop hypotheses to explain similarities and differences among geographic and demographic statistical profiles.
3. Categorize geographic elements.
4. Evaluate the impact of geographic elements on human populations.

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

Korea data tables

BACKGROUND:

Florida and the two Koreas are both located on peninsulas, providing an interesting scenario in which to compare groups of people and investigate causes of similarities and differences. The technique of treating Florida in the same way as a nation may be artificial but may provide for a dialogue with students about the appropriateness of such a technique and may also provide a model for the examination of states and/or regions within the United States.

A preliminary lesson on economic terminology may be necessary for students with little experience using this type of information. An effective method of dealing with this problem may be prolonged until the handout is distributed and then projecting a transparency of the handout and conducting a discussion regarding the meaning of each category/term (e.g., per capita GNP, arable land) prior to examining the actual data.

PROCEDURE:

1. Duplicate the attached Korea data tables resource sheets.
2. Ask students to locate Florida, South Korea (The Republic of Korea) and North Korea (the Democratic People's Republic of Korea) on a map.
3. Ask students what physical characteristics they have in common (location on a peninsula.) Ask students how they differ in physical characteristics (terrain, global position affecting climate.)
4. Ask students to theorize what causes groups of people to live the way they do (physical location, resources, climate, etc.)

5. Divide students into five groups: Population, Health, Communications, Crime and Economy. Ask each group to examine the data for their subject on the three locations. Have them identify categories in which (a) data on the locations are basically the same and (b) categories in which data on the locations are significantly different.
6. Have students hypothesize causes for (a) each similarity they found in step five and (b) each significant difference they found in step five.
7. Ask students to list their causes (from step 6) on the board and then develop a category system for them (i.e. physical, environmental, cultural, political, etc.).
8. Have students determine which category of causes appears to have the biggest impact on shaping the data provided to them.

EVALUATION:

Have students investigate each location in detail to determine if their hypotheses were accurate.

	SOUTH KOREA	NORTH KOREA	FLORIDA
I. AREA			
Total Area	38,023 sq. miles	46,541 sq. miles	58,664 sq. miles
Land Area	37,911 sq. miles	46,491 sq. miles	54,153 sq. miles
Water Area	112 sq. miles	50 sq. miles	4,511 sq. miles
II. CLIMATE/PHYSICAL FEATURES			
General Description	Continental climate with monsoonal rains in the summer and cold dry winters	Continental climate with hot humid summers and cold dry winters	Varies from temperate to tropical with high humidity and heavy rains in the summer
Average Temperature			
Winter	21 degrees (F)	21 degrees (F)	62.6 degrees (F)
Summer	77 degrees (F)	77 degrees (F)	81.5 degrees (F)
Terrain	Mostly hills and mountains with wide coastal plains in west and south	Mostly hills and mountains separated by deep, narrow valleys with wide coastal plains in west	Mostly flat coastal plains with gentle low hills in the north central area with 4,511 sq.mi. of water area
III. AGRICULTURE / LAND USE			
Land in Agriculture	22.4%	17.0%	32.3%
Arable Land	21.0%	18.0%	22.4%
Meadows & Pastures	1.0%	> 1%	9.3%
Forest & Woodland	67.0%	74.0%	31.3%
IV. NATURAL RESOURCES			
	coal, lead tungsten graphite hydropower molybdenum	coal, graphite, tungsten, lead, hydropower, pyrites, magnesite, fluorspar, salt, zinc, copper, iron ore, gold	petroleum phosphate stone
V. ECONOMY			
Gross National Product Total	\$451,700,000,000	\$22,300,000,000	\$177,729,000,000
Agricultural	\$21,840,000,000	\$5,825,000,000	\$4,432,000,000
Per Capita GNP	\$10,076	\$957	\$13,671
Economic Growth Rate	8.7%	-4.5%	NA
Unemployment Rate	2%	0%	5%
Total International Trade	\$260,180,000,000	\$2,050,000,000	NA
Exports	\$125,060,000,000	\$740,000,000	NA
Imports	\$135,120,000,000	\$1,310,000,000	NA

	SOUTH KOREA	NORTH KOREA	FLORIDA
Electricity Productions	184,700,000,000 KWH	23,000,000,000 KSH	NA
Per Capita Electricity	2,460 KWH	1,650 KWH	9,546 KWH
Labor Force	16,900,000	9,615,000	5,845,000
Services (Tertiary)	52%	27%	54%
Mining & Manufacturing	27%	30%	13%
Farming/Fishing/Forestry	21%	43%	4%
Coal Production	5,670,000 ton	23,700,000 ton	NA
Imported Crude Oil	84,930,000 ton	1,100,000 ton	NA
Grain Products	5,476,000 ton	3,451,000 ton	NA
Rice Products	4,695,000 ton	1,212,000 ton	NA
Marine Products	3,348,000 ton	1,052,000 ton	NA
Iron Ore	184,000 ton	4,221,000 ton	NA
Non-Ferrous	644,000 ton	154,000 ton	NA
Female Labor Force	33.9% of total	45.9% of total	54.9% of total
Employed / Population	38.2% of total	43.4% of total	59.8% of total
Inflation Rate	7%	2%	NA
External Debt	\$38,200,000,000	\$7,000,000,000	\$123,295,000,000
Commodities Exported	textiles, clothing, electronic and electrical equipment, footwear, machinery, steel, automobiles, ships, fish	minerals, metallurgical products, agicultural products, manufactures	NA
Commodities Imported	machinery, electronics, electronic equipment, oil, steel, transport equipment, textiles, organic chemicals, grains	oil, machinery and equipment, coking coal, grain	NA
VI. POPULATION			
Population	44,851,000	23,261,000	12,937,926
Population Density Per Square Mile	1,164 persons	477 persons	239 persons
Population Growth Rate	0.9%	1.9%	3.27%
Infant Mortality Rate	1.1%	2.8%	NA
Population Under Age 15	23%	29%	19.00%
Population Age 65 and Over	6%	4%	17.00%
Urban Population	74%	61%	90.80%
Birth Rate Per 1000 Population	16.4	24.1	14.6
Life Expectancy - Female	73 years	72 years	78 years
Life Expectancy - Male	67 years	66 years	70 years
Death Rate Per 1000 Population	6	6	10.6
Marriage Rate Per 1000 Population		7.3	11.1
Divorce Rate Per 1000 Population		0.77	6.3

	SOUTH KOREA	NORTH KOREA	FLORIDA
VII. HEALTH			
Physicians Per 10,000 Population	8.6	23.8	20.3
Per Capita Daily Calorie Consumption			
Total	2,826	2,843	NA
Animal	374	215	NA
Vegetable	2,452	2,627	NA
Sugar Consumption	18kg	5kg	NA
VIII. COMMUNICATIONS			
Television Stations	57	11	52
AM Radio Stations	79	18	198
FM Radio Stations	46	0	168
Televisions Per 1000 Population	200.4	86.9	207.3
Radios Per 1000 Population	967.5	204.32	1003
Telephones Per 1000 Population	296	1.35	500
Daily Newspapers	39	15	46
Registered Automobiles Per 1000 Population'	35.2	11.16	715
IX. CRIME RATES (OFFENSES PER 100,000 PEOPLE)			
Total	2,637	NA	8,938
Aggravated Assaults	42.5	NA	653
Rapes	5	NA	50
Murders	1.5	NA	11
<p>NOTE: It was not possible to have all information in the Korea Data Tables matched exactly for specific chronological periods due to the variety of sources used and the difficulty of gathering data on North Korea. In those cases where there was a difference in the reporting period, it does not appear to make a significant difference in terms of the profile/pattern use for which the data are intended. In most cases, 1995 statistics were available.</p>			