

3 Culture, diffusion, language and religion – Part 1 — Answers

Answers

Work through these after you have tried the questions yourself.

3.1 The visible imprint of human activity on a place — the buildings, field patterns, signs and other physical features that a culture leaves on the land.

3.2 Folk culture is practised by small homogeneous groups and changes slowly, spreading by relocation; popular culture is practised by large heterogeneous groups, changes rapidly, and spreads through mass media.

3.3 Hierarchical diffusion.

3.4 A pidgin is a simplified language that develops for communication between groups with no common tongue and has no native speakers; it becomes a creole when a generation grows up speaking it as a first language and it develops full grammar.

3.5 Universalising religions actively seek converts, so they spread by expansion diffusion into populations with no prior connection to the hearth, as well as travelling with migrants. Ethnic religions are tied to a specific people and often to a sacred territory, rarely seek converts, and so spread mainly when their adherents themselves move.