**Ch. 8 Political Geography**

**Key Issue 2 Why are Nation-States Difficult to Create?**

**Rubenstein, p.270-279**

1. Define **nation-state**:
2. The concept of dividing the world into independent nation-states is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**I. DEVELOPMENT OF STATES**

1. The first states emerged in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but more recently the early modern

states developed in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Define **city-state**:
2. Take notes on the history of the development of states:

Ancient States –

Medieval States –

20th Century States –

**II. NATION-STATES AND MULTINATIONAL STATES**

1. Define **self-determination**:
2. Do you believe all ethnicities have a right to self-determination? What are positive & negative implications of self-determination?
3. a. Why is Japan an example of a nation-state?

b. What are some other examples of nation-states? (Find examples throughout the section.)

1. a. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ measured the degree of ethnic diversity in states.

b. Many of the states with the least diversity are in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

c. Many of the states with the greatest diversity are in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

d. Where does the U.S. fall? Are you surprised?

1. a. Define **multiethnic state**:

b. Define **multinational state**:

c. Is the U.S. a multiethnic or multinational state? Justify your answer.

1. In what ways do the Nazis’ actions in World War II reflect self-determination?
2. Post-World War II, what are some examples of successful nation-states? Failed nation-states?
3. Some micro-states (and slightly larger states, such as the Maldives southwest of India in the Indian Ocean) are particularly concerned about global warming—why?

**III. RUSSIA: THE LARGEST MULTINATIONL STATE**

1. U.S.S.R. stands for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , existed between \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

and included \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ republics based on the largest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The largest ethnicity was

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the largest republic was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. However, there were

over \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_recognized ethnicities in the U.S.S.R.

15. The dissolution of the U.S.S.R. in 1991 resulted in 15 independent states grouped into 5 regions.

Identify each region and corresponding states.

16. Describe the composition and distribution of ethnicities in Russia.

17. What autonomy do the larger ethnic groups have under the Russian government?

18. In 2014, Russia seized Crimea from Ukraine—what was the Russian justification for this action? Do

you think Russia’s actions were justified?

**IV. NATION-STATES IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION**

19. Moldova used to be part of Romania until the Soviet Union seized it in 1940. When it reverted back

to an independent state in 1992, many Moldovans wanted to reunify with Romania. Rubenstein says, “it was not to be that simple.” Why not?

20. a. Where is the Caucasus region?

b. How did the Soviets unify the many ethnicities in the Caucasus region?

c. The break-up of the Soviet Union resulted in 3 countries in this region. Identify the countries and

ethnic/political conflicts in each.

**V. COLONIES**

21. Define **colony**:

22. Most non-self-governing territories are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, with the exception of the

largest non-self-governing territory: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

23. The following territories are not considered colonies because\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

(Take notes on each territory.)

Puerto Rico –

Greenland –

Hong Kong & Macao –

24. a. Define **colonialism**:

b. What are the three basic reasons countries established colonies?

25. Create a timeline outlining the history of colonization from the start of the colonial era through the

20th century.