Ch 1. Toward Civilization
Prehistory-3000 BCE

Section 1: Understanding Our Past
Section 2: The Dawn of History
Section 3: Beginnings of Civilization
Section 1: Understanding Our Path

A. Geography

1. the study of people, their environments, and the resources available to them
   a. Geographers show how and where past peoples have lived
   b. Often have limited evidence to work with
B. There are four (4) *themes* which sum up the impact of geography on human history.

- 1. Location
- 2. Region
- 3. Human-Environment Interaction
- 4. Movement
Section 1: Understanding Our Path

B. The four (4) themes of geography

1. Location:
   a. tells where a place is on the surface of the Earth
   b. uses **Longitude** and **Latitude**
      i. **Latitude** – measures the distance a “place” if from the EQUATOR
         - the Equator is an imaginary line that splits the world into a northern and southern half
      ii. **Longitude** – measures the distance a “place” is from the PRIME MERIDIAN
         - the Prime Meridian is an imaginary line that runs north and south through Greenwich, England
   iii. the distance of each, called coordinates, allow any human to locate a specific place on the surface of the Earth
      - ex. 36° 10’ 30” N, 115° 8’ 11” W
B. The four (4) themes of geography

2. Regions
   a. when you describe whole areas based on either human or physical characteristics
   b. less specific than location

c. examples of physical characteristics
   - landforms
   - climate
   - soil quality
   - resources
   - plant and/or animal life

d. examples of human characteristics
   - cultural characteristics
   - economic status
   - religion
   - language
   - forms of government
Section 1: Understanding Our Path

B. The four (4) themes of geography
   3. Human-Environment Interaction
      - humans *shape* their environment and at the same time are *shaped* by the environment
B. The four (4) themes of geography

4. Movement

- the movement of peoples, goods, and ideas shape our human story [DIFFUSION, SYNCRETISM]
Assignment:

1. Draw the *Equator* and label it.
2. Draw the *Prime Meridian* and label it.
3. Label the *Northern / Eastern Hemisphere*.
4. Label the *Northern / Western Hemisphere*.
5. Label the *Southern / Eastern Hemisphere*.
6. Label the *Southern / Western Hemisphere*.
7. Which man-made lines, *lines of longitude or latitude*, are all the same “length?”