

Name:

Date:

## Summer Reading Assignment

**Summer Reading Book:** *Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps that Explain Everything about the World* By Tim Marshall. This book is available at most major booksellers and online booksellers, including Amazon.

**Directions:** After reading the book, answer each of the following questions from the reading. Please use complete sentences. The answers to most of the questions can be found in the chapter indicated, although a few will require a small amount of research. One or two sentences should be sufficient to answer most questions.

### *Chapter One: Russia*

1. What geographic characteristics are most prominent in Russia?
2. Briefly describe the current political situation in Crimea.
3. In your opinion, what is the most important “takeaway” from this chapter? Explain your reasoning.

### *Chapter Two: China*

4. Briefly describe the current political situation in Tibet.
5. Briefly describe the relationship between China and Taiwan.
6. In your opinion, what is the most important “takeaway” from this chapter? Explain your reasoning.

### *Chapter Three: The United States*

7. Describe the geographic changes that impacted the historical development of the US?
8. What is the US Policy regarding the development of the Middle East and Iran specifically?
9. In your opinion, what is the most important “takeaway” from this chapter? Explain your reasoning.

### *Chapter Four: Western Europe*

10. How has geography impacted the economic situation in Greece?
11. What is Germany’s geo-political role in Europe?
12. What was the significance of Brexit?

*Chapter Five: Africa*

13. Why is the world's idea of African geography flawed? How has this affected international relations between African countries?
14. Explain in detail how conditions in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) illustrate why the catch-all term "developing world" is too broad to describe countries that are not part of the modern industrialized world.
15. Summarize China's presence in Africa and explain how it has contributed to political conflict.

*Chapter Six: The Middle East*

16. Describe the difference between Sunni and Shia Islam. Provide an example of conflict between these two groups.
17. Describe Turkey's (name recently changed to Türkiye) current role and position in the Middle East.
18. In your opinion, what is the most important "takeaway" from this chapter? Explain your reasoning.

*Chapter Seven: India and Pakistan*

19. Describe the geographic changes that impacted the historical development of India and Pakistan? How has this affected their current relationship?
20. How did the Taliban impact relations between NATO and Pakistan?
21. In your opinion, what is the most important "takeaway" from this chapter? Explain your reasoning.

*Chapter Eight: Korea and Japan*

22. Describe the state of North Korea and its current foreign policy?
23. Explain the geographical makeup of Japan? How does this impact Japan's access to raw materials such as iron and oil?
24. In your opinion, what is the most important "takeaway" from this chapter? Explain your reasoning.

*Chapter Nine: Latin America*

25. How has the geography of Mexico influenced its foreign policies and the presence of cartels?
26. What is the purpose of the Panama Canal? Why is the Nicaragua Grand Canal Project significant?
27. Describe the geography and economic state of Brazil.

*Chapter Ten: The Arctic*

28. How is climate change affecting sea lanes in the arctic?
29. What is the melting ice suggesting about potential riches and resources?
30. According to UNCLOS, how far offshore does a country have exclusive economic rights?