NCC – Geo 101 - Weekly Essays

Weekly essays must be **neatly hand-written** and submitted to me no later than the mid-class break each week. Your summary should be written in your own words in proper English. Your grade will be based on content and proper grammar, usage, syntax, and structure. **Late submissions will not be accepted.**

*** If your English writing skills are not at college level, it is **STRONGLY** recommended you make an appointment with the NCC Writing Center for an evaluation and help.

1. What are the five fundamental themes of geography? Include one or more sentences describing each.
2. In what two meanings and for what different purposes do geographers refer to location? When geographers say "location matters," what aspect of location commands their interest?
3. What is a map projection, what are the four main properties and how are these properties related to each other?
4. What is remote sensing? Describe the different types of sensors and how they are used.
5. Describe the development of remote sensing satellite systems.
6. What are the three classes or main groups of rocks and how are they formed(give details)? Give two examples of each class.
7. With what earth movements are earthquakes associated? What are tsunami and how do they develop?
8. Young volcanoes and the epicenters of earthquakes are often associated with each other. Why?
9. What is the distinction between mechanical and chemical weathering? How is weathering responsible for landform creation?
10. How is the atmosphere heated? What is the environmental lapse and what does it indicate about the atmospheric heat source?
11. Draw and label a diagram of earth's global wind and pressure belts. Why do the winds and pressure belts occur where and the way they do?
12. What is relative humidity? How is it affected by changes in air temperature? What is the dew point?
13. Summarize the temperature and rainfall characteristics of four (4) the following climates:
   - Tropical Wet (Af)
   - Tropical Wet & Dry (Aw)
   - Desert (BW)
   - Mediterranean (Cs)
   - Humid Continental (Dfa)
   - Subarctic (Dfc/d)
   - Tundra (ET)
14. What causes the greenhouse effect? What impact might it have on the earth's environment
15. What is the basic distinction between a renewable and a nonrenewable resource? Why do estimates of proved reserves vary over time?
16. Why has oil become the dominant form of commercial energy? Which countries are the main producers of crude oil?
17. What vital ecological functions do forests perform? Where are the tropical rain forests located and what concerns are raised by their destruction?
18. Discuss three ways of reducing demands on resources.
19. How do the **crude birth rate** and the **fertility rate** differ? Which measure is the more accurate statement of the amount of reproduction occurring in the population?
20. How is a **population pyramid** constructed? What shape of pyramid reflects the structure of a rapidly growing country? What can we tell about future population numbers from those shapes?
21. Describe the stages in the **demographic transition**. Where in the world has the final stage in the transition been achieved?
22. What is acid rain and where is it a problem?
23. What is the importance of the ozone layer and what has caused its depletion?