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Exam Tips: Human Geography

Observations of the Chief Reader

The following tips were taken from the Chief Reader's observations about student performance on the 2001 free-response section:

- Have students practice written assignments that differentiate between descriptive and analytical instructions (e.g., name, list, define, discuss, explain).
- Encourage students to approach a question in an integrative manner. The use of specific case studies is one strategy for communicating this important feature of the AP Human Geography course.
- Encourage students to think about conceptual models in the context of geographic thought and scholarship.
- Stimulate students to develop, and to be able to defend, a good repertoire of international examples.
- Draw widely from across the major course texts to avoid an over-reliance on a particular treatment of a course topic.
- Have students develop their ability to provide succinct but accurate definitions.