**Unit 3 Vocabulary**

**Cultural Processes**

* **Acculturation**- the adoption of the behavior patterns of the surrounding culture
* **Assimilation**- the social process of absorbing one cultural group into harmony with another
* **Artifa**cts- object made by human beings, either hand-made or mass-produced; preseved for a long period of time
* **Cultural ecology**- the study of the interactions between societies and the natural environments they live in
* **cultural hearths**- the geographic origins or sources of innovations, ideas, or ideologies
* **cultural landscape**- the visible imprint of human activity and culture on the landscape
* **culture trait**- a single, distinguishing feature of regular occurrence within a culture, such as the use of chopsticks or the observance of a particular caste system
* **culture complex**- a related set of culture traits descriptive of one aspect of a society's behavior or activity (may be assoc. with religious beliefs or business practices).
* **culture system**- cultural complexes have traits in common such as ethnicity, language, religion and others
* **culture region**- a region within which common cultural characteristics prevail
* **Syncretism**- the union (or attempted fusion) of different systems of thought or belief (especially in religion or philosophy)
* **folk culture**- culture traditionally practiced by a small, homogeneous, rural group living in relative isolation from other groups.
* **popular culture**- culture found in a large, heterogeneous society that shares certain habits despite differences in other personal characteristics.
* **non-material culture**- human creations, such as values, norms, knowledge, systems of government, language, and so on, that are not embodied in physical objects
* **material culture**- the physical manifestations of human activities; includes tools, campsites, art, and structures. The most durable aspects of culture.

**Religion**

* **ethnic religion**- a religion identified with a particular ethnic group and largely exclusive to it
* **universalizing religion**- a religion that attempts to appeal to all people, not just those living in a particular location.
* **branch (religion**)- large and basic divisions within a religion
* **denominations (religion)**- divisions of branches that untie local groups into a single adminastrative body
* **sects (religion**)- relatively small groups that do not affiliate with the more mainstream denominations
* **Shamanism**- an animistic religion of northern Asia having the belief that the mediation between the visible and the spirit worlds is effected by shamans
* **Animism**- the doctrine that all natural objects and the universe itself have souls
* **Sikhism-** the doctrines of a monotheistic religion founded in northern India in the 16th century by Guru Nanak and combining elements of Hinduism and Islam

**Language**

* **creole**- a mother tongue that originates from contact between two languages; mix of indigenous and colonial language
* **dialect**- the usage or vocabulary that is characteristic of a specific group of people
* **extinct** language- a language that was once used by people in daily activities but is no longer used.
* **Toponymy**- the branch of lexicology that studies the place names of a region or a language
* Transculturation- cultural borrowing that occurs when different cultures of approximately equal complexity and technological level come into close contact
* **standard language**- the form of a language used for official government business, education, and mass communications.
* **Indo-European language family**- family that consists of Albanian, Celtic, Germanic, Italic languages; stretches across the greatest extent of territory and claims the greatest number of speakers
* **pidgin**- an artificial language used for trade between speakers of different languages; usually a simplified version
* **official language**- the language adopted for use by the government for the conduct of business and publication of documents
* **Multilingualism-** common use of two or more languages in a society or country
* **linguistic geography**- the study of local variations within a speech area by mapping word choices, pronunciation, or grammatical constructions
* **Isogloss**- a boundary that separates regions in which different language usages predominate
* **language families**- group of languages with a shared but fairly distant origin
* **language sub-family**- group of languages with more commonality than a language family (indicates they have branched off more recently in history)
* **lingua franca**- a common language used by speakers of different languages; used for international trade

**Ethnicity**

* **diasporas**- the migration of religious or ethnic groups to foreign lands despite their continued affiliation with the land and customs of their origin
* **Ethnocentrism**- belief in the superiority of one's own ethnic group