CHAPTER 22: LOCATION, PATTERN, AND STRUCTURE OF CITIES

CHAPTER OUTLINE

I. Introduction
   A. Relationships between cities and surrounding countrysides can be measured and mapped
      1. Every city and town has an adjacent region within which its influence in dominant
      2. Hinterland—German word meaning the land “behind” the city
      3. Large cities tend to lie farther apart than smaller ones
   B. What this chapter covers
      1. Evolution of cities
      2. Urban geography—study of how cities function, their internal systems and structures, and the external influences on them

II. Ranking urban centers
   A. Urban hierarchy and functions of clustered settlements
      1. A hamlet is usually a settlement of fewer than 100 people, and may or may not have an urban function if it offers no services
      2. A village is likely to offer several dozen services
      3. A town has a higher level of specialization and has a hinterland
      4. The city
         a) More functional specialization and a larger hinterland
         b) A well-defined commercial center
         c) Greater centrality
      5. Megalopolises—multiple cities that have grown together to create a single urban expanse
      6. Example of so-called Bosnywash

III. Place and location
   A. Growth of Shenzhen, China (Figure 22-1)
   B. Urban situation
      1. Shenzhen lies across the border from Hong Kong
         a) Profits from its relative location—its situation
         b) Situation can change
      2. Example of Paris (Figure 22-2)
      3. Favorable situation of Chicago
      4. Situation can deteriorate over time
         a) Example of United States’ northeastern manufacturing belt
         b) Example of Berlin
   C. Urban site
      1. The actual physical qualities of the place a city occupies
      2. The original site of Paris was an island (Figure 22-3)
      3. Site problems of Mexico City
         a) Mountain flanked basin
         b) Built on a now-dry lake-bed and is chronically short of water
         c) Vulnerable to earthquakes
         d) Polluted air and is encircled by 100s of slums
         e) Annual total growth of about 750,000 inhabitants
      4. Bangkok, Thailand is sinking because of water pumping from needed wells
      5. The role of a city’s site can change over time
6. Example of Singapore's favorable site and situation (Figure 22-4)

IV. The changing city
   A. Cities have different atmospheres
      1. Once established tends to survive even change and modernize
      2. John Borchert recognized four-stages in the evolution of the American metropolis
         a) Sail-wagon epoch (1790-1830)
         b) Iron-horse epoch (1830-1870)
         c) Steel-rail epoch (1870-1920)
         d) Auto-air-amenity epoch (1920-1970)
   B. Today Borchert would add a fifth—High-Technology Epoch (1970 to present)
      1. Transportation technology played a roll in each of his four epochs
      2. The mark of transportation can be found in all of America’s older cities
      3. Each city carries its own imprints of history

V. Models of urban structure
   A. Cities exhibit functional structure
      1. The central business district (CBD) is the core
      2. Term central city often used to denote urban areas within the outer ring of residential suburbs
      3. Suburb—outlying, functionally uniform part of an urban area, often (but not always) adjacent to the central city
      4. Existence of regional structure within cities is discussed
      5. Layout of North American cities
         a) Cities general have central zones
         b) Between central and outer zones sometimes can be found a middle zone
   B. Modeling the North American city
      1. The concentric zone model discussed (Figure 22-5A)
      2. The sector model discussed (Figure 22-5B)
      3. The multiple nuclei model discussed (Figure 22-5C)
      4. Urban realms—components of giant conurbations that function separately in certain ways but linked together in a greater metropolitan sphere
      5. Early post-war period, reduced volume and level of interaction between the central city and suburban cities
      6. Outer cities became more self-sufficient
         a) Began to duplicate certain functions of the central city
         b) Regional shopping centers were becoming the CBDs of the outer nuclei
         c) Business and industrial parks were locating outside the central city
      7. The term urban realm came into use in the 1990s
      8. Five discrete realm have emerged around central Los Angeles (Figure 22-7)
         a) West Realm
         b) Northwest Realm
         c) East Realm
         d) Southeast Realm
         e) Southwest Realm
         f) In the middle lies the sixth urban realm, Central Los Angeles, located at the hub of the freeway network
      9. Growth of outer cities has been the hallmark of the American urbanization since the 1960s
      10. As early as 1973, American suburbs surpassed central cities in total employment
      11. Outer cities became so-called edge cities
      12. Outer cities have become equal partners in the shaping of the polycentric metropolis
C. Box: The United State Census

VI. Socio-cultural influences on cities
A. Shape the landscapes found in American cities
   1. Neighborhood spatial differences
   2. Help explain the internal ethnic geography
   3. Ethnic neighborhoods
   4. Economic forces and institutions behind racial patterns that developed in cities
      a) Redlining—financial institutions refused to lend money to risky neighborhoods marked off on maps by red lines
      b) Blockbusting—Offering an African-American a house in a white neighborhood at a very low price to convince white neighbors that the neighborhood was going downhill
      c) Racial steering—used after blockbusting became illegal in the 1960s
   5. Concerns about the dangers of urban life led to the proliferation of gated communities
B. A Sense of Scale box: Social and Economic Change Incite the Los Angeles Riots

VII. Patterns of cities
A. Rank size rule—a model of urban hierarchy
   1. The population of a city or town will be inversely proportional to its rank in the hierarchy
   2. Does not apply in countries with dominant primate cities
   3. Tells little about the reasons behind the distribution of places at various levels
B. Urban functions
   1. Every city and town has an economic base
      a) Basic sector—work that results in exports and inflowing money
      b) Non-basic sector—also called the service sector
      c) The number of non-basic workers is always greater than the number of basic workers; the ratio tends to increase as city grows
C. Functional specialization
   1. Employment structure—data on the number of people employed in various basic and non-basic jobs
   2. All cities have multiple functions—the larger the city larger the number of functions
   3. Functional specialization
      a) A characteristic of European cities even before the Industrial Revolution
      b) Association between the names of cities and their functional specialities has little relevance today
      c) There was a time when many cities were identified with certain products
   4. Three 1943 maps by Chauncy Harris of distribution of United States' cities according to their dominant functions (Figure 22-8)
      a) Reveal a situation that no longer exists
      b) Only slightly more than a dozen northeastern cities could still be mapped as manufacturing centers
   5. Explanation of the multiplier effect
D. Central places
   1. Every urban center has a certain economic reach that can be used as a measure of its centrality
   2. Centrality is a characteristic of urban situations crucial to development of urban places and their service areas

VIII. Central place theory
A. Developed by Walter Christaller
1. Spatial distribution of one place in the hierarchy to another

2. Began with a simple set of assumptions
   a) Surface of ideal region would be flat and have no physical barriers
   b) Soil fertility would be the same everywhere
   c) Also assumed an even distribution of population and purchasing power, and uniform transportation network
   d) Assumed a constant maximum distance for sale of any good or service produced in a town would prevail in all directions from urban center

3. He wanted a means to calculate the degree of centrality of various places

4. What distance people would travel to acquire goods and services

5. Because circles overlapped or left spaces hexagons were used (Figure 22-9)

6. Logical extension of this conclusion is shown in Figure 22-10

7. His model yielded some important conclusions that had practical application

B. The real world

1. Physical barriers, resource distributions, etc. create modification of the spatial pattern
   a) Geographers were divided on relevance of the model
   b) Some saw hexagons everywhere, others saw none

2. Some areas do tend to confirm the model

3. Christaller stimulated urban and economic geography in general and location theory in particular

IX. A. Summary

1. Discussion of the Sunbelt cities

2. Urban hierarchy changes and the Sunbelt region