

Exercise walk-through

3.7

Diffusion of Religion and Language

AP Human Geography

Types of diffusion

- **Relocation diffusion** : spreads as people move.
- **Expansion diffusion** : spreads outward, stays at source.
- Expansion = contagious, hierarchical, or stimulus.

Expansion diffusion comes in three forms

contagious

spreads outward from person to nearby person – a viral video, an accent, a disease

hierarchical

jumps from big, important places to other big places first – a fashion moving city to city, skipping the countryside between

stimulus

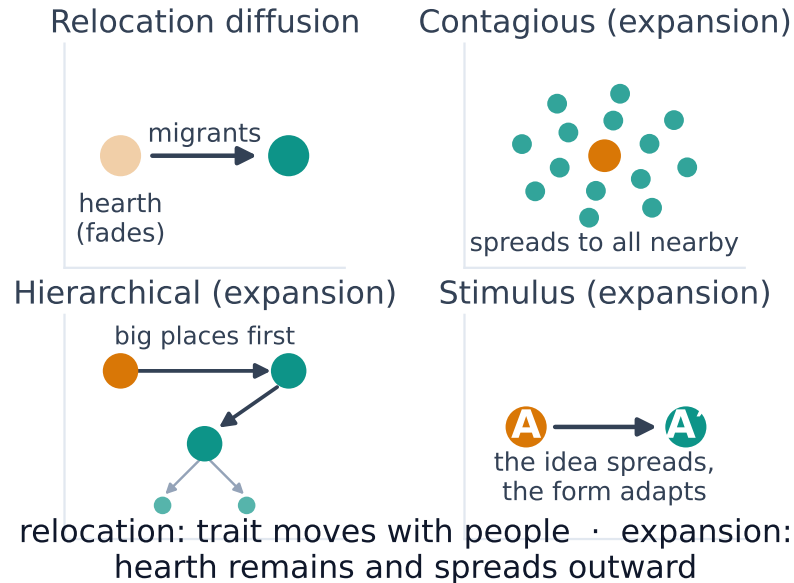
the underlying *idea* spreads even though the trait itself changes – a global fast-food brand rewriting its menu for a local market

and relocation

the separate case: the trait **moves with the people**, leaving the hearth behind

Expansion keeps the trait at the hearth and adds new places; relocation **carries** it away. That is the first split to make in any diffusion question.

Relocation diffusion moves with migrants; expansion



Relocation diffusion moves with migrants; expansion diffusion spreads outward while staying at the source

Causes of diffusion

- Historical:
colonialism, trade routes, migration.
- Contemporary:
globalization and communication technology.
- Time-space
convergence makes places feel closer.



Trade and media shrink cultural distance

What made diffusion fast

historic

trade routes, migration, **colonialism** and **imperialism** carried language, religion and crops across continents

contemporary

globalisation, the internet and cheap transport – **time–space compression** means a trend can now cross the world in days

the tension

the same forces that spread culture also **threaten local traditions**

the debate

a global culture against local identity – and whether the two must be exclusive

Every diffusion answer should end here: what spread, how fast, and what it displaced on arrival.

Exercises 2.1-2.2

2.1 Define a lingua franca and give one example.

[2]

2.2 State the difference between a pidgin and a creole.

[2]

Exercises 2.1-2.2

2.1 Define a lingua franca and give one example.

[2]

2.1

- a common language adopted for communication between speakers of different languages; e.g. English in international business

2.2 State the difference between a pidgin and a creole.

[2]

2.2

- a pidgin is a simplified contact language for trade; a creole is a pidgin that has become a community's native first language

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 English, German, and Hindi share an ancient common ancestor.

(a) What are such related languages called together?

[1]

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 English, German, and Hindi share an ancient common ancestor.

(a) What are such related languages called together?

[1]

(a)

- a language family (Indo-European)

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 English, German, and Hindi share an ancient common ancestor.

(b) Name one way English diffused to become a global lingua franca.

[1]

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 English, German, and Hindi share an ancient common ancestor.

(b) Name one way English diffused to become a global lingua franca.

[1]

(b)

- colonialism / trade / global media and business

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 A regional variety of a language with its own accent and words is a [1]

- ☐ A lingua franca
☐ B dialect
☐ C pidgin
☐ D language family

3.2 Missionaries converting people in distant lands spread religion mainly by [1]

- ☐ A relict boundaries
☐ B expansion diffusion
☐ C distance decay
☐ D carrying capacity

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 A regional variety of a language with its own accent and words is a [1]

- ☐ A lingua franca
☐ B dialect
☐ C pidgin
☐ D language family

3.1 B

- a regional variety of one language is a dialect

3.2 Missionaries converting people in distant lands spread religion mainly by [1]

- ☐ A relict boundaries
☐ B expansion diffusion
☐ C distance decay
☐ D carrying capacity

3.2 B

- conversion outward from a source is expansion diffusion

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 Traders from different language groups develop a simple shared speech.

(a) Name this simplified language.

[1]

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 Traders from different language groups develop a simple shared speech.

(a) Name this simplified language.

[1]

(a)

- a pidgin

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 Traders from different language groups develop a simple shared speech.

(b) Explain what it becomes if the next generation speaks it as a mother tongue. [1]

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 Traders from different language groups develop a simple shared speech.

(b) Explain what it becomes if the next generation speaks it as a mother tongue. [1]

(b)

- a creole – a fully developed native language