Anthropology and Social Change

* **Social Change: Any signifigant alteration over time in behavioral patterns or cultural norms.**

Write this down

* **Reminder from unit one: Anthropologists regard CULTURES, the focus of their studies as constantly changing organisms**

Anthropologists say the social change happens because of:

Internal Factors

External Factors

Physical Environment

Population Change

Proximity

Technology

Social Environment

Internal Factors

* **Invention:** A new product, idea, or social pattern that impacts how a large group lives their daily lives.

Example: Invention of the plough

External Factors: 1)Physical Environments

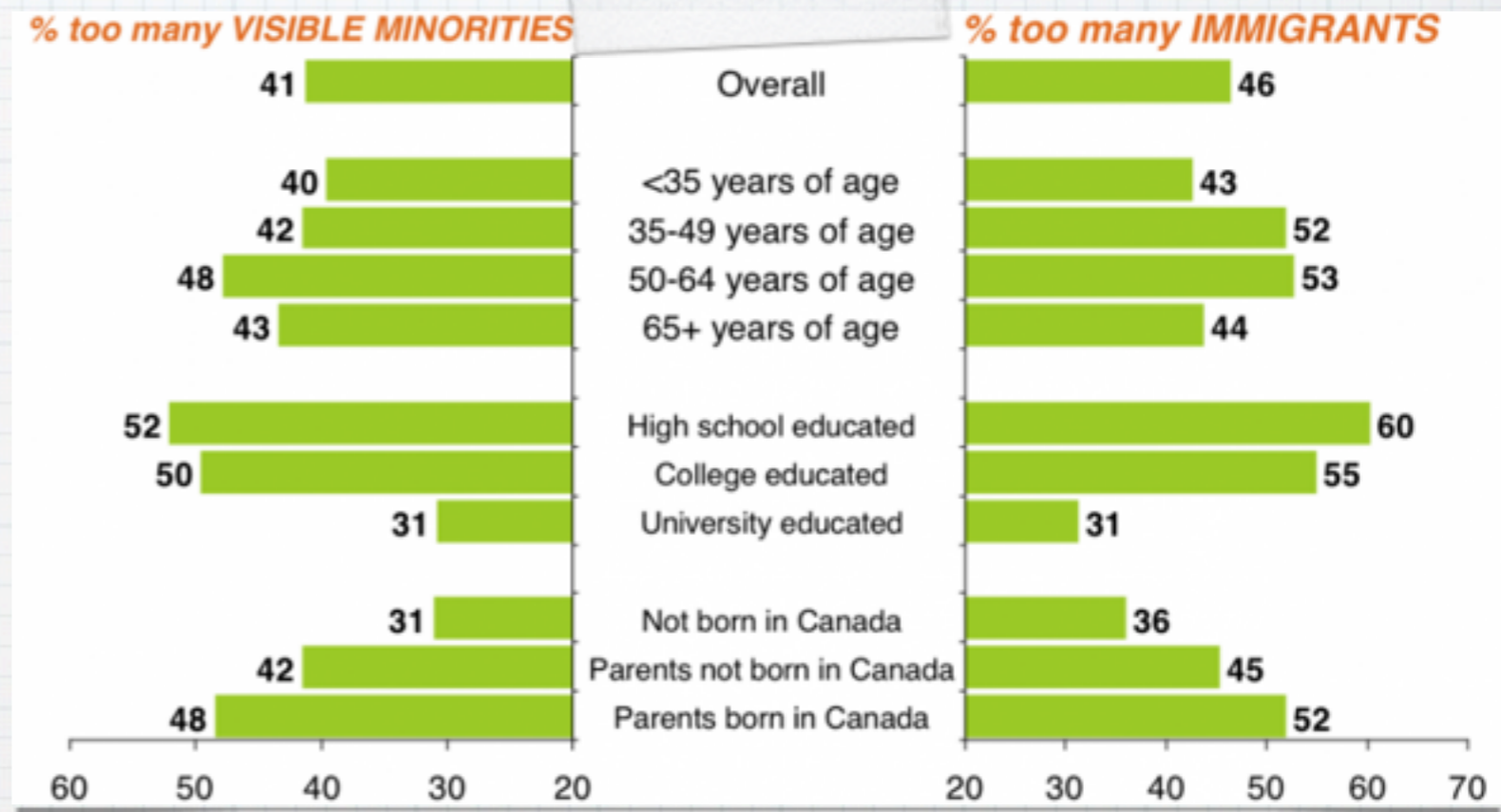* Climate, weather, vegetation, animal populations all have impacts on society

Write this down

Example: Natural disasters

External Factors: 2)Population Change

* **Immigration** can lead to cultural exchanges between different groups.

% too many VISIBLE MINORITIES | % too many IMMIGRANTS

	% too many VISIBLE MINORITIES	% too many IMMIGRANTS
Overall	41	46
<35 years of age	40	43
35-49 years of age	42	52
50-64 years of age	48	53
65+ years of age	43	44
High school educated	52	60
College educated	50	55
University educated	31	31
Not born in Canada	31	36
Parents not born in Canada	42	45
Parents born in Canada	48	52

Write this

Example: Immigration and Racial Tolerance

External Factors: 2)Population Change

* If there is not enough people in an area due to **emigration**, social institutions must change.

Write this down

External Factors: 3)Proximity

* Societies in close proximity tend to change and develop more then those in isolated areas

Write this down

Example: Ethnic Food

Two Types of Proximity Influences

* **Diffusion:** the spread of culture from one society to another through contact

Write this down

Two Types of Proximity Influences

* **Acculturation:** blending between 2 cultures after close interaction over time, results in changes to both groups
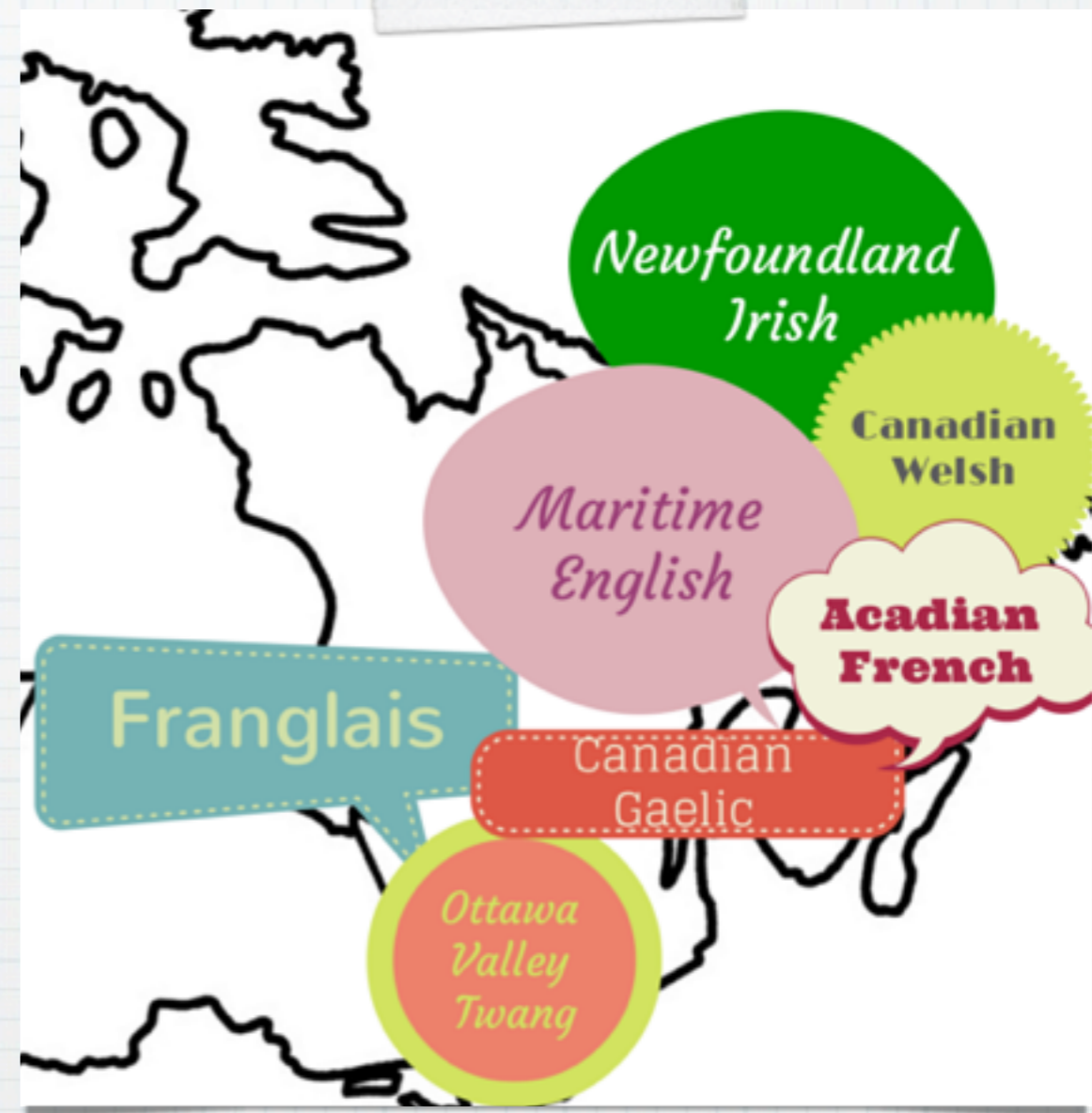
Write this down

Acculturation Occurs because of:

* Incorporation:

* It can be freely borrowed

* Canoe is Canadian cultural borrowed from Natives

Acculturation Occurs because of:

* Directed change:

* It can be forced; when one culture overtakes another and suppresses its people

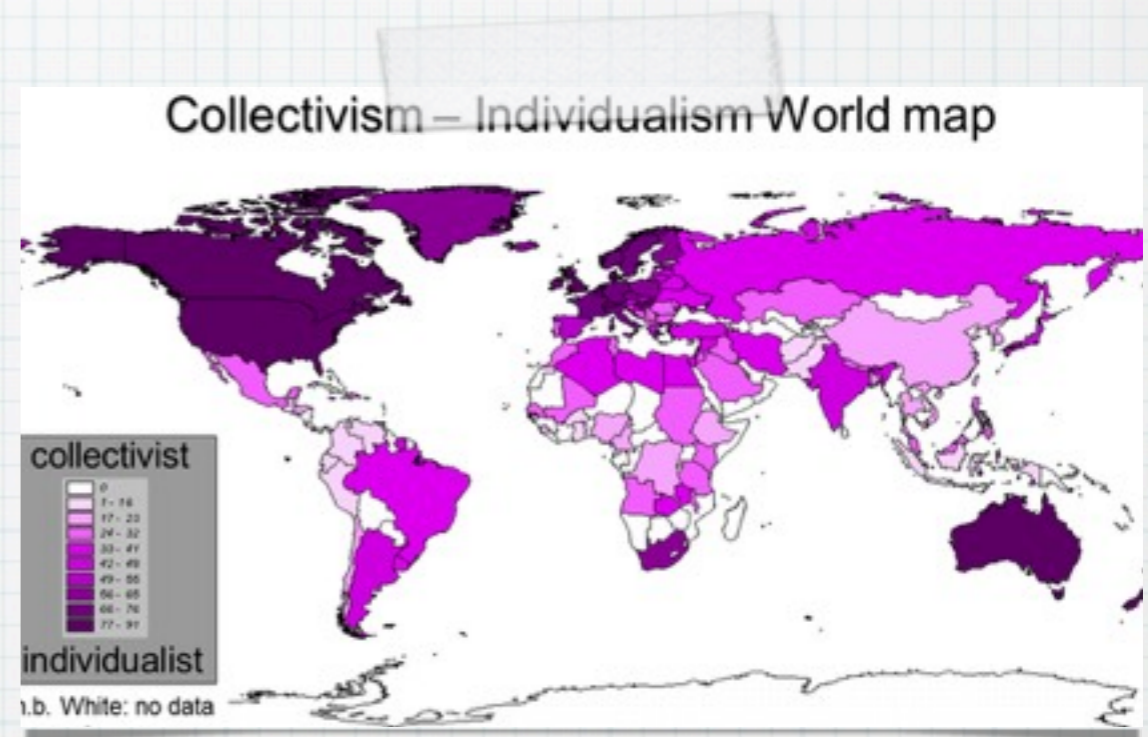* We speak English & French... colonization

External Factors: 4)Technology

* Technology alters the way we interact with our environment

Write this down

External Factors: 5)Social Environment

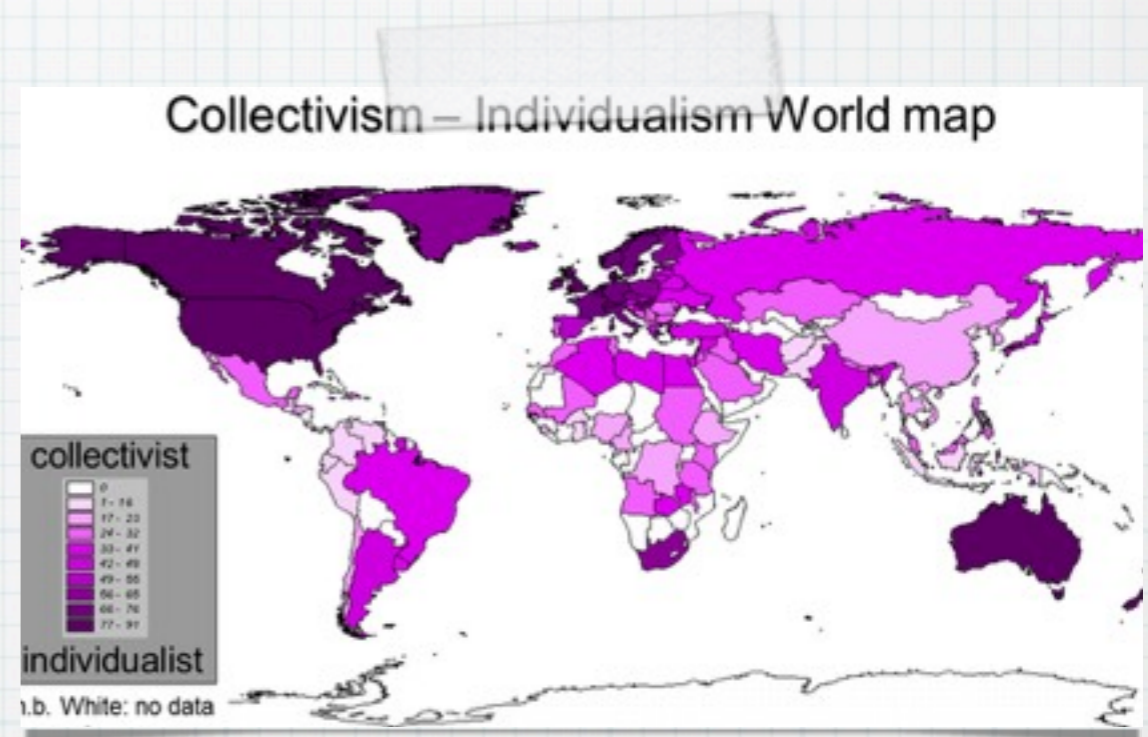Collectivism – Individualism World map

* **Collectivist Society: Value include conformity, uniformity, cooperation**

**Write this down**

External Factors: 5)Social Environment

* **Collectivist Society:** Value include conformity, uniformity, cooperation

  * Duties and obligation to the group more important then personal privilege

  * Difficult for social change to happen

Collectivism – Individualism World map

collectivist

| 0
| 1 - 16
| 17 - 20
| 24 - 32
| 33 - 41
| 42 - 49
| 49 - 56
| 64 - 65
| 66 - 76
| 77 - 91

individualist

n.b. White: no data

External Factors: 5)Social Environment

* **Individualistic Society:** Social behavior guided by rights and freedoms

Collectivism – Individualism World map

collectivist
individualist
n.b. White: no data

Write this down
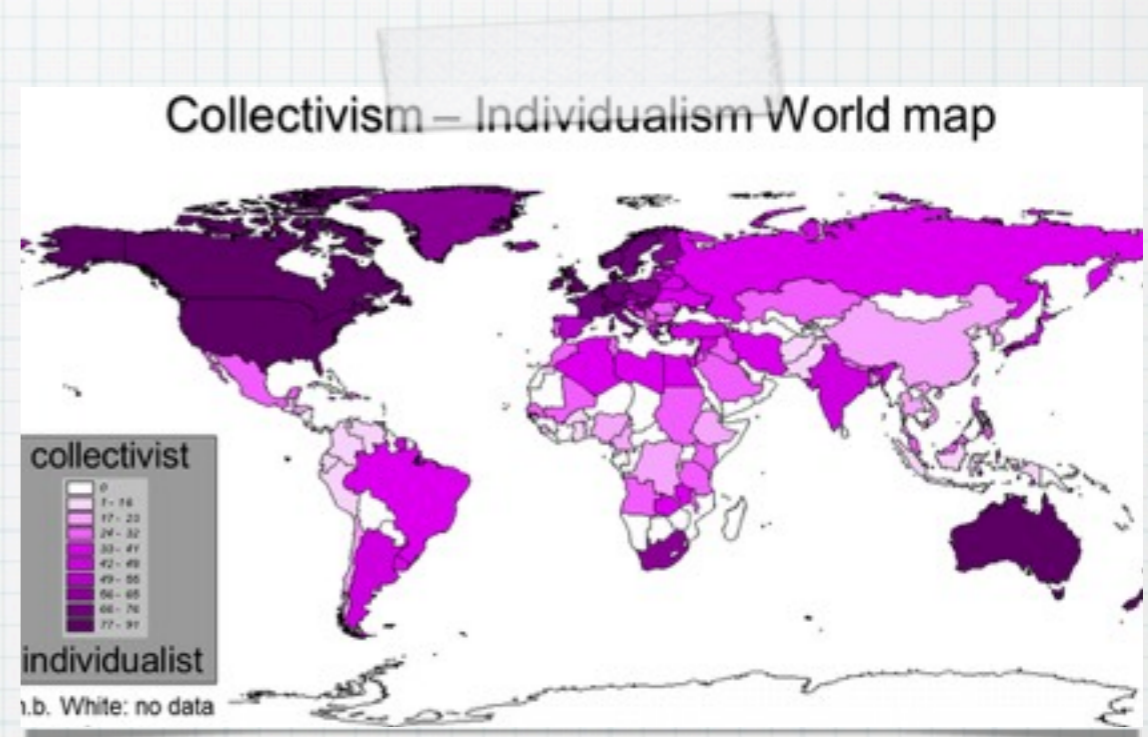
External Factors: 5)Social Environment

* **Individualistic Society:** Social behavior guided by rights and freedoms

    * Tolerant of cultural variability

    * Easier for social change to happen

Collectivism – Individualism World map

collectivist

individualist

n.b. White: no data
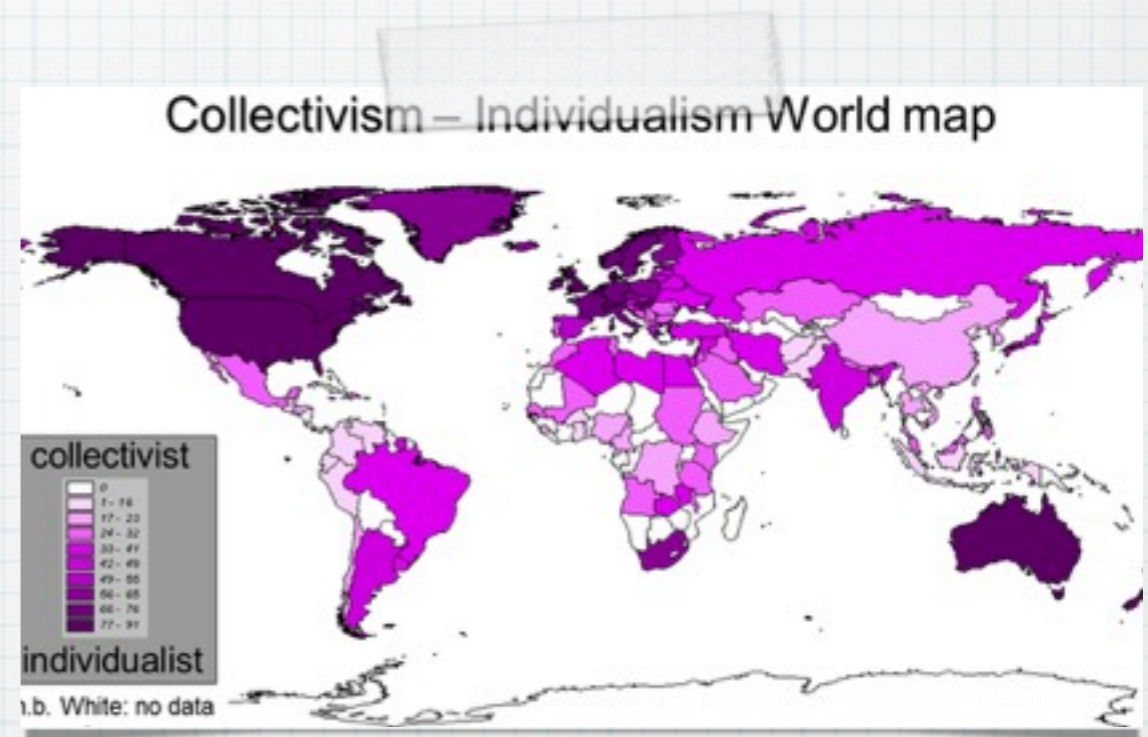
Anthropology and Mental Wellness

* Question:

    * Do you consider yourself an adult?

    * In this society how do you know you are an adult?

Rites of Passage

* What are some rites of passage in your culture?

* Do you think they are important in the development of mental wellness

Anthropology Schools of Though on Social Change

Schools of Thought in Anthropology

* There are two schools of thought in cultural anthropology that look at social change:

  * Cultural Materialism

  * Functionalism

Functionalism

* All cultures are set up to deal with various physical or psychological needs

* Every custom serves a function

Write this down

Functionalism

* For social change to happen, it has to be in the best interest of the majority
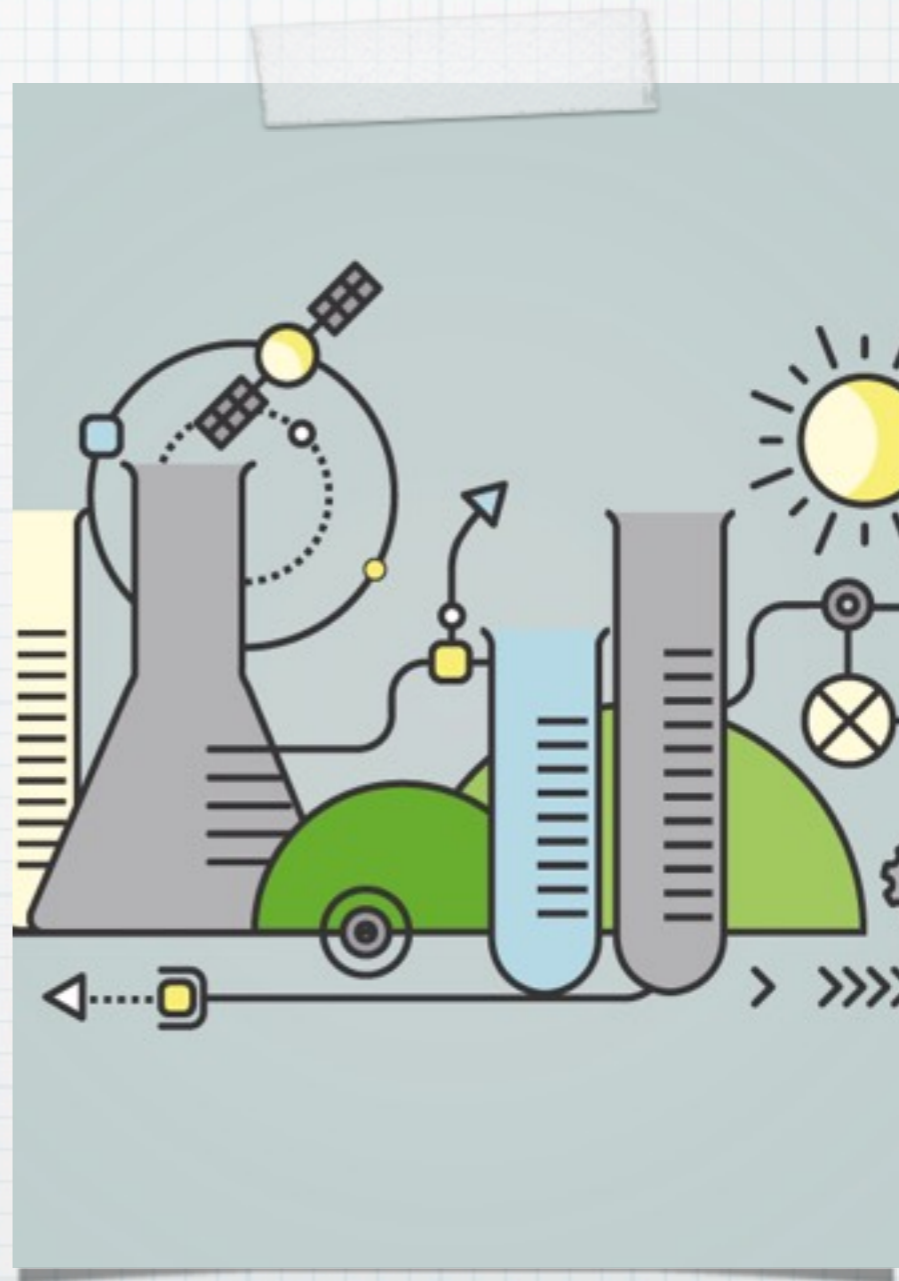
Write this down

Cultural Materialism

* Believe there are three levels of structure in all cultures:

  * Infrastructure

  * Structures

  * Superstructures

Write this down

Cultural Materialism

* **Infrastructure**

* **Technological and economic factors of culture**

  * **Material stuff they produce**

Write this down

Cultural Materialism

* Structures

* How culture is organized

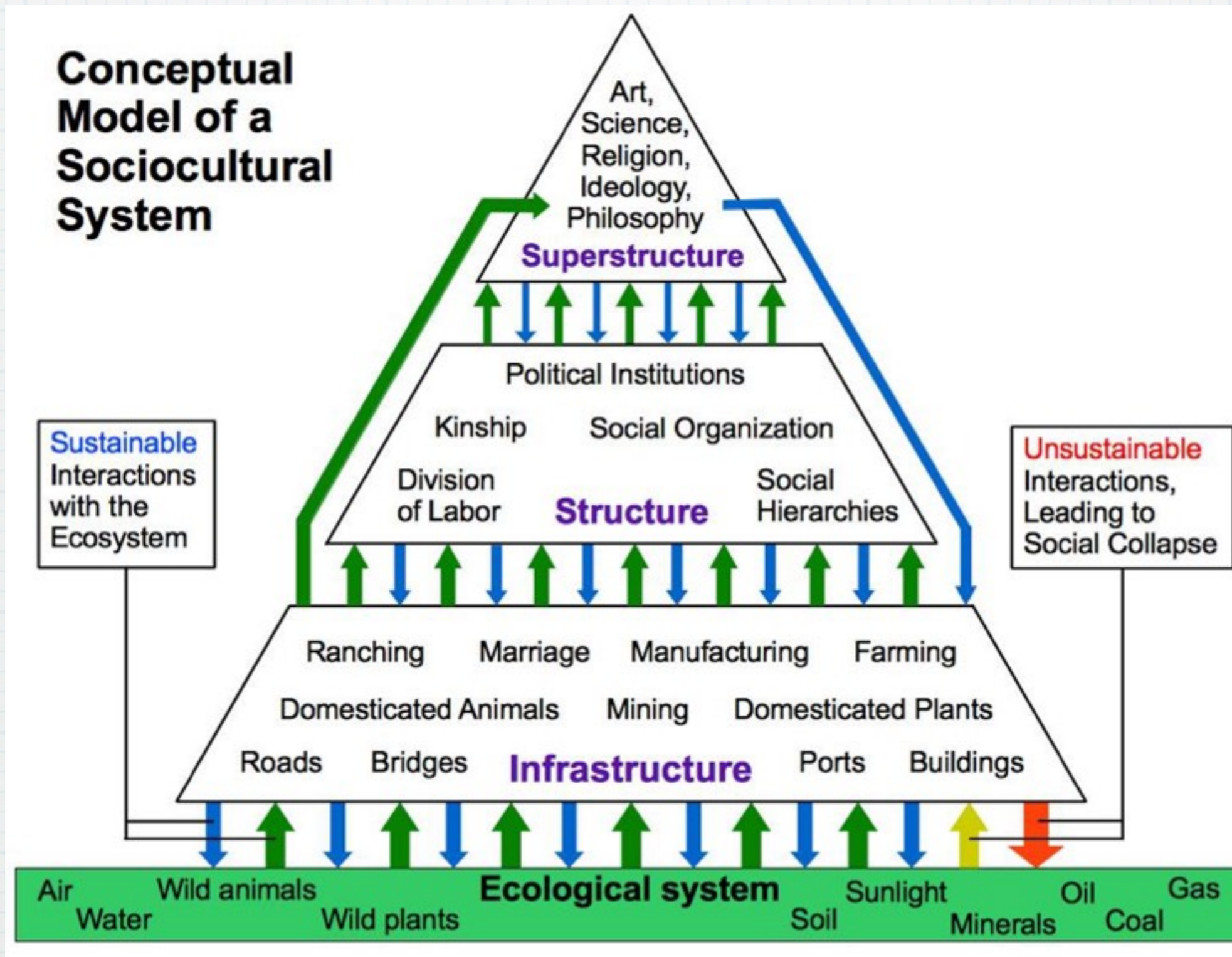 * Social classes and the distribution of wealth

Write this down

Cultural Materialism

* Superstructures

* Ideology of culture.

  * Music, art, religion, values

Write this down

Cultural Materialism

Conceptual Model of a Sociocultural System

Art, Science, Religion, Ideology, Philosophy
Superstructure

Political Institutions
Kinship   Social Organization
Division of Labor   **Structure**   Social Hierarchies

Sustainable Interactions with the Ecosystem

Unsustainable Interactions, Leading to Social Collapse

Ranching   Marriage   Manufacturing   Farming
Domesticated Animals   Mining   Domesticated Plants
Roads   Bridges   **Infrastructure**   Ports   Buildings

Air   Wild animals   **Ecological system**   Sunlight   Oil   Gas
Water   Wild plants   Soil   Minerals   Coal

School of Thought	Big Idea	Theorist
Cultural Materialism	Physical materials, conditions, and economic activities determine how a culture develops.	Marvin Harris (1927 - 2001)
Functionalism	The function of beliefs and institutions in a society is to meet the needs of the majority of its members.	Bronislaw Malinowski (1884 - 1942)

Write this down

I don't see how you can write anything of value if you don't offend someone.

— Marvin Harris —

AZ QUOTES

Activity: Functionalism and Kinship

* In groups analyze the various kinship patterns and family structures from around the world.

* State how each pattern may serve a function that helps it's society.

Polygamy

* Polygyny: Man may have multiple wives

    * Levirate Marriage: Some cases where a deceased man's heir may inherit his widows

Polygamy

* Polygyny: Man may have multiple wives

  * Benefits:

    * Men can have more children (workers), gives them access to various political ties

Polygamy

* Polygyny: Man may have multiple wives

  * Benefits:

    * Senior wives gain social status, senior wives work load is lessened.

Polygamy

* Polyandry: Woman may have multiple husbands

    * Benefit: Often seen in societies with high male death rates.

Polygamy

* Polyandry: Woman may have multiple husbands

    * Benefit: Prevents breaking up land in countries lower economic classes.

Nepal, Tibet

Polygamy

* Polyandry: Woman may have multiple husbands

   * Benefit: Limits population

Arranged Marriages

* **Child Marriages:** Seen in areas of poverty where parents are able to ensure child's financial security

* Niger, Chad, Bangladesh

Arranged Marriages

* **Late Marriages:** In many cultures, individuals past the age of 30 have a limited applicant pool.

* Japan

Arranged Marriages

* **Limited Choices:** Allows immigrant cultures to keep homogomy.

* Sikh culture in Canada

Arranged Marriages

* **Politics:** In many cultures arranges marriages are a political move to acquire titles.

* **Dowry:** Property or money brought by the bride to her husband on marriage.

* India