Name\_\_Evan Steelhammer\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ch. 20-22 Vocab

(508-574)

1. Transition Zone:

an area in which the properties of the land undergo a radical change

1. Sahel:

steppe region extending from Senegal to Somalia that receives little rainfall

1. Delta:

an often triangular-shaped section of land formed as the waters of a river slow down and split into many channels as they deposit sand and silt that has been carried downriver

1. Harmattan:

a hot, dry wind that blows from the northeast or east in the western Sahara

1. Domesticate:

to adapt plants and animals from the wild for human use

1. Animist:

pertaining to traditional religious beliefs in which nature and objects, such as animals and mountains, are thought to have spirits

1. Sanitation:

the disposal of waste products

1. Patriarchal:

a family that is headed by a male family member

1. Clan:

clan a large group of people descended from the same ancestor

1. Nuclear Family:

a family unit made up of a husband, wife, and children

1. Oral Tradition:

the practice of passing down stories from generation to generation by word of mouth

1. Subsistence Farming:

farming that provides the basic needs of a family with little surplus

1. Rift Valley:

a crack in Earth's surface created by the shifting of tectonic plates

1. Fault:

a crack or break in Earth's crust

1. Escarpment:

a steep cliff or slope between a higher and lower land surface

1. Cataract:

a large waterfall

1. Indigenous:

native to a place

1. Lingua Franca:

a common language used among people with different native languages

1. Over farming:

situation in which land is repeatedly farmed so that the soil nutrients are depleted

1. Habitat:

area with conditions suitable for certain plants or animals to live

1. Carrying Capacity:

The population that an area will support without undergoing deterioration

1. Poaching:

illegal hunting

1. Reservoir:

a natural or artificial lake used as a source of water

1. River Plain:

a plain formed by the deposit of sediment over a long period of time by one or more rivers

1. Conflict Diamonds:

diamonds that are mined in war-torn areas and are used to finance wars

1. Infrastructure:

the set of systems that affect how well a place or organization operates, such as telephone or transportation systems,within a country

1. Griot:

traditional oral historians, storytellers, singers, and musicians of West Africa

1. E-Commerce:

buying and selling on the Internet

1. Erosion:

the wearing away of soil

1. Fishery:

a place for catching fish; the fishing industry