Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Languages of the World

1. How many distinct languages do we estimate there are in the world today? How is this an example of cultural diversity?

2. Define language.

3. Why do you think it is hard to document languages that do not have a written form?

4. Language follows the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of people. Why do you suppose this is?

5. The global distribution of language is the result of two processes: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. What does that mean?

6. What language is becoming most dominant in the world?

7. How did English start to spread around the world?

8. Define dialect. Give an example of a dialect.

9. Even though there are different dialects of English, language is becoming more homogenous. Why?

10. What are the main differences between American English and British English?

11. Define an “extinct language”. Give one example.

12. Can we revive languages that are extinct? Give an example.

13. What can we do to prevent the extinction of languages?

14. Why do YOU think we should prevent languages from becoming extinct?

15. What types of problems can arise at boundaries between two languages?

16. What is an isolated language? Give an example.