

Language: Key Issue 1

NAME:

## Where Are English-Language Speakers Distributed?

Rubenstein, pp. 137-143

### ● **ORIGIN AND DIFFUSION OF ENGLISH**

1. How did English become to widely diffused?

2. What three European peoples originally came together to form the English people and English language?

3. Where did these people come from?

4. What two subsequent invasions added additional words to the evolving English language?

### ● **DIALECTS OF ENGLISH**

5. **Dialects** are defined as "regional variations of a language" and are distinguished by three things. List them.

1.

2.

3.

6. Define **standard language**:

7. What is the standard language form of English? Where did it come from (3 cities)? How was it diffused throughout Britain?

8. In a **single word**, why is American English different from that spoken in England?

9. In the table below, complete bullet charts of salient and interesting facts regarding each of the following differences between the British and American dialects of English.

**Differences between British and American English**

<u>VOCABULARY</u>	<u>SPELLING</u>	<u>PRONUNCIATION</u>

10. Three distinct dialect regions are identified in the Eastern US. What was the source region of settlers for each?

<b>REGION</b>	<b>SOURCE OF SETTLERS</b>
Northeastern U.S.	
Midlands (Tidewater, Chesapeake Bay Area)	
Southeastern Coastal Region	

11. Finish the two following sentences and fill in the blanks:

\*In most instances, words which are different in various dialects are words which are related to . . . .

\*Language differences, as exhibited in dialects, tend to be greater in \_\_\_\_\_ than \_\_\_\_\_ because . . .

12. People from all three eastern regions migrated into the Midwest, Great Plains, and the Western United States. Why, then, is there a relatively uniform form of English (dialect) spoken across this enormous area? (Hint: a single word will do.)