Unit 4 Possible FRQ

1. The modern state system is engaged in a struggle between the forces of supranationalism and devolution.
   A. Define both terms and give a geographic example for each.
   B. With reference to the political and economic geography of Europe, briefly discuss three changes resulting from supranationalism.
   C. With reference to the political and economic geography of Europe, briefly discuss three changes resulting from devolution.

3. The viability of any state depends on a balance between centripetal and centrifugal forces.
   A. Define the concepts "centripetal force" and "centrifugal force."
   B. Give a specific example of and explain a centripetal force that affects the viability of any of the states shown on the map above.
   C. With reference to a different specific example, explain a centrifugal force that affects the viability of any of the states shown on the map above.

1. Walls and other barriers built by countries to establish their borders are some of the oldest and most controversial elements in the cultural landscape.
   a. Identify three examples of walls or other barriers built by countries in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.
   b. Explain the purpose of one of the examples you identified in part a.
   c. For each of the categories listed below, discuss a consequence faced by countries as a result of walls or other barriers established along their borders.
      i. social or political
      ii. economic
      iii. environmental

2. The international borders of African countries are a legacy of colonialism.
   A. Describe the concept of a superimposed boundary.
   B. Describe three political or cultural consequences of superimposed boundaries in Africa.
   C. Identify and explain one challenge landlocked African countries face in developing viable economies.
3. Political geographers classify most countries as either unitary states or federal states.
   A. Define unitary state and identify the country shown that fits the definition of a unitary state.
   B. Explain ONE positive and ONE negative impact of a unitary system.
   C. Identify and explain ONE reason why some countries are governed as federal states.

1. In the redistricting that occurred in 2012, voters in Maryland approved a redrawn Third Congressional District, as shown in the map above. A geospatial analysis firm named it the least compact district in the nation.
   A. Identify the political phenomenon represented on the map.
   B. Explain the relationship between redistricting and the census.
   C. Identify and discuss TWO political consequences that could result from redistricting.