



VOCABULARY

Lens to deny to reject = to turn down
To go away accent gesture
outdated = out of fashion morbid tame
Switch Split = Divide remarkable
Rule Crown surpassed root
The zoeira never ends. Interpreted = perceived
latitudinal line

EXPRESSIONS

People from other countries In particular
to be worth out of the blue There's a catch.
"Uti possidetis ita possideatis."
The get lost in the sauce. It's a different ball game.

Do you know of _____?
Have you visited _____?
Meet in person = to know
I haven't been there..

PRONUNCIATION

Psychologists psychologists stereotype

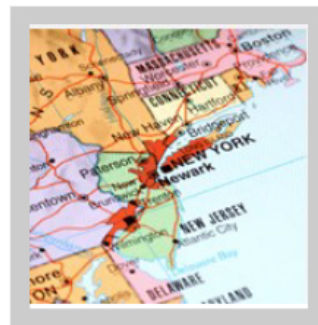
Unconscious influence participants
phenomenon

Time and again, cleaver

READING

A World of History

I have always been fascinated by borders, the limitations man puts on himself. While some borders are internal (the idea for instance that I cannot possibly fly to the moon or run a marathon), it is the external ones that delight me. The history of man is a history of changing borders and adversities. Millennia ago, man could not cross rivers. Rivers, thus, divided the entirety of one group of man from the entirety of others. Then, engineers designed bridges: literally, nature was conquered, and, with the river navigable, borders no longer needed to revolve around them.



So man came up with other borders. Through wars or negotiations, he made lines between lands. Some were still geographical: mountain ranges divided nations, rivers and seas still made sense as boundaries, and deserts and tundras became vast borderlands. But other lines were arbitrary. Lines of longitude and latitude made straight-line separations. New states were carved out of parts of old ones. Islands became part of existing lands or became sovereign nations. With those spaces carved out and claimed, man would occasionally go to war to acquire more space. But then man came up with technological solutions to the problems of space. If we were limited by moving outward, we would move upward. Skyscrapers became ubiquitous in densely populated areas, and, just as bridges had conquered one kind of natural border, so towers of steel and concrete vanquished the very idea of space.

I am as interested in understanding how man separates and conquers space as a geologist is in studying minerals. It is my passion. I believe we can learn more about the world by looking at maps than we can by traveling to every spot on the globe. In person, places look limitless, but on maps, we realize that there is a relative dearth of everything in this world. We also learn part of the story of human interaction from maps. They explain to us something about why the world is the way it is. From a map, I learn, for instance, that Denmark used to be a powerful enough nation to conquer territories as vast as Greenland. By looking at names of places, I can see which groups dominated and when. Looking at America east to west shows that the English dominated the East Coast, naming cities New York and New London, while the Spanish dominated the southwest, naming cities Los Angeles and San Diego. Liberia must have had an American influence, given the capital of Monrovia (named for James Monroe), and Alexandria, Egypt proves that Alexander the Great was there. The region on the map indicating an Inner and Outer Mongolia alongside a state known as Mongolia suggests a history of interactions between the Chinese dynasties and the Mongol Horde.

All of this is found simply by perusing a map and poring over the details therein. To open up an atlas, then, is to open up a world of history.

- 1) As used in paragraph 2, the word **vanquished** has the nearest antonym in
- A. stranded
 - B. challenged
 - C. constructed
 - D. submitted
 - E. triumphed
- 2) According to the author, each of the following have been used as national borders in the past or present EXCEPT
- A. deserts
 - B. imaginary lines
 - C. warzones
 - D. mountain ranges
 - E. rivers
- 3) As used in paragraph 3, the word **dearth** most nearly means a
- A. growth
 - B. shortage
 - C. passion
 - D. plethora
 - E. history
- 4) According to the author, maps
- A. provide insight into history
 - B. show that man has conquered borders
 - C. demonstrate that certain areas in the world are unclaimed
 - D. inform a viewer of how to get around a place
 - E. indicate that little of the world is unexplored



The screenshot shows the Wikipedia article for Tordesillas. The left sidebar contains navigation links such as 'Main page', 'Contents', 'Current events', 'Random article', 'About Wikipedia', 'Contact us', 'Donate', 'Contribute', 'Help', 'Learn to edit', 'Community portal', 'Recent changes', 'Upload file', 'Tools', 'What links here', 'Related changes', 'Special pages', 'Permanent link', 'Page information', and 'Cite this page'. The main content area has tabs for 'Article' and 'Talk', with 'Article' selected. The title 'Tordesillas' is prominently displayed. Below the title, it states 'From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia'. The text describes Tordesillas as a town and municipality in the province of Valladolid, Castile and León, central Spain. It provides details about its location, elevation (704 metres), population (c. 9,000 as of 2009), and its connection to the Douro River. It also mentions its role as a major transit hub due to its highway connections and its agricultural production, particularly wheat. The article notes that the town is well-served by hotels, including a Parador, and has a camping site. It also mentions the Toro de la Vega festival, where a bull was traditionally slaughtered.