GEOG 251
Regional Geography of the United States and Canada

Exercise at the American Museum of Natural History

To do this exercise you will have to visit the American Museum of Natural History, located in Manhattan on Central Park West between 77th and 81st Streets. They will charge you an entrance fee. It may take you about 3 hours to complete the exercise.

A floor plan of the museum is attached. All exhibits that pertain to this exercise are on Floor 1. Start in the (former) 77th Street Entrance lobby and follow the arrow on the attached floor plan. The arrow will take you by the exhibits you will need to see to complete this exercise in the order they are referred to below.

Answer all the questions below. Centered headings refer to exhibit halls. The bold face title for each question matches the name of the exhibit.

NEW YORK STATE ENVIRONMENT

Birds-eye View of Stissing Mountain

What type of land survey system was used in this area? What are the clues?

Glaciation

Examine the diagram on the left and imagine it is somewhere in the present Middle West. What would you expect the landscape/topography to look like today?

Soils and Soil Conservation

Name and describe the 3 soil profiles. Which one is best for agriculture, and why?
Relation of plants to Geology and Soils

The geography of soil fertility may be closely related to the distribution of different kinds of bedrock. Compare and explain the soil profiles derived from gneiss and limestone. Which one is best for agriculture, and why?

Fertilizers in the Soil

Specifically, how do clover and alfalfa increase the amount of nitrogen in the soil?

From Field to Lake

What evidence is there that this area was glaciated?

Agriculture (under sign for Felix M. Warburg Memorial Hall)

How does this exhibit exemplify sequent occupance? (See your class notes for the meaning of this term.)

There are 5 scenes in this exhibit. Suppose there were a 6th scene dated 2004. In what ways might it differ from the scene dated 1950?
NORTH AMERICAN FORESTS

Early October in Southern New Hampshire

What are the chances of this area being farmed? Explain.

Each of the following items (A-H) refers to an exhibit in the North American Forests hall. On the attached map of the United States and Canada, locate each of the exhibits with a dot and a label. In the spaces below, indicate which one of Mcknight's regions pertains to each exhibit. Also, for each exhibit briefly describe the climate of the area and how it is reflected in what you see.

A. Southeastern Coastal Plain Forest

B. Giant Cactus Forest

C. Pinon-Juniper Forest

D. Timberline in Northern Rocky Mountains
E. Olympic Rain Forest

F. Oak-Hickory Forest

G. Jeffrey Pine Forest

H. Northern Spruce-Fir Forest

Passageway toward Biology of Invertebrates

Forest Soils (on right of passageway)

Describe the location and appearance of spodosol (podzols) and ultisols (red-yellow podzols).
NORTH AMERICAN MAMMALS

Each of the following items (I-L) refers to an exhibit in this section. On the attached map of the United States and Canada, locate each of the exhibits with a dot and a label. In the spaces below, indicate which of McKnight's regions pertains to each exhibit. Also, for each exhibit briefly describe the climate of the area and how it is reflected in what you see.

I. Bison and Pronghorn

J. Alaska Moose

K. Osborn Caribou

L. Musk Ox