

BEST ANSWER WRITING STRATEGY FOR UPSC CS

How to Improve Answer Writing



Model based Paradigms in Geography

1) Possibilism

1820

Believe V/s
Science

Normative
V/s

Empirical

↓
August Comte

2) Neo Positivism

1953

Empirical

Deductive V/s Inductive

Schafar

Hartshorne
(1939)

Nomothetic V/s Idiographic
(Scientific) (Descriptive)

↓
universal laws

↓
uniqueness

Kantian legacy
(exceptionalism)

3) Quantitative Tradition

• Man as rational
ecoⁿ creature

• Surface of earth as
isotropic plain
(1960s)

4) Behaviourism

Normative questions

Believe
Fear
Perception

↓
can be deductive
but
not empirical
deductive

Positivism

→ Reality is only what we can sense & prove
so science should be only related to reality & not believe.

- Credited to August Comte (1820s) is defined to be the attempt of distinguishing science from religion.
- Comte strongly advocated that all scientific knowledge must be based on direct observation of reality rather than unexplainable believes of individuals or group of individuals.
- He also identified strong requirement of generalising the observations into unfinished (progressive or dynamic) and testable theories or models.

(*) He thus facilitated deductive approach for knowledge discovery (i.e. model based paradigm).

Neo-Positivism

- Fred Schaefer (1953) in the text entitled - exception-
alism in geo : A methodological analysis, laid foundation to Neo-Positivism or scientific positivism.
- This approach was based on highlighting criticism to empirical inductive reasoning (Kantian tradition, that was carried forward by Hartshorne in the text nature of geography. 1939)
- Schaefer strongly argued that geography as scientific discipline should be oriented towards Nomothetic approach

Regional Synthesis

Regions Characteristics	A	B	C	D
Relief		// // //		
Climate		// // //		
Pop ⁿ	X X X	X X X X	X X X	X X X
Agri ^c		// // //		

→ systematic

↓
Regional

- The use of term region in geography is defined to be as old as geo itself (traced back to the contributions of greek scholars).
- As concept, the term region is applied to denote homogenous geographical space (considered as one of the 5 themes in geo).
- Dutch scholar & father of dualism Varenius in his attempt of distinguishing particular vs general approach emphasised the dualistic tradition b/w regional vs systematic resp.
- * He advocated that geo can be either a systematic

discipline (that facilitates comparison) or a regional discipline (that facilitates in depth analysis of a given location).

- formal genesis of regional approach is identified in the work of both German & French scholar leading to the development Classical Phase of regional synthesis

- Classical Phase

- ↳ In this phase regions were defined to be areas binded in homogeneity of its characteristics.

- ↳ Credited to determinist, the german scholars -
Richtofen &
Hettner

- who identified homogeneity in terms of natural conditions.

- * Hettner carrying the legacy of kant's ideology laid foundation to neo kantian approach emphasizing that this homogeneity must be studied for each & every location i.e. geography been essentially an idiographic discipline searching out for uniqueness of homogeneity.

- ↳ The classical possibilist propounder of regional approach includes -
Blache
Bruhnes

↳ Both these scholars emphasised on homogeneity from the perspective of human or cultural characteristics

↳ Blache advocated that the scale of study to judge the homogeneity prevailing should be largest that was defined by him as micro historical cultural unit called pages.

micro scale or strong homogeneity degree

↳ In Bruhnes contribution, emphasises on dynamism strongly enriched classical regional approach which includes

Principle of activity

i.e dynamism prevailing within a region.

eg Nomadic Herding

Principle of interaction

i.e dynamism b/w different regions.

eg - NH to livestock ranching

because there is dynamism, what characteristics today are, will not remain same.

Modern Phase

↳ American scholar Hartshorne in his text - nature of geo & coined & popularized the term -

Areal differentiation

↳ It approaches geographical studies towards comprehending heterogeneity b/w 2 regions in place of focusing on homogeneity within 1 region.

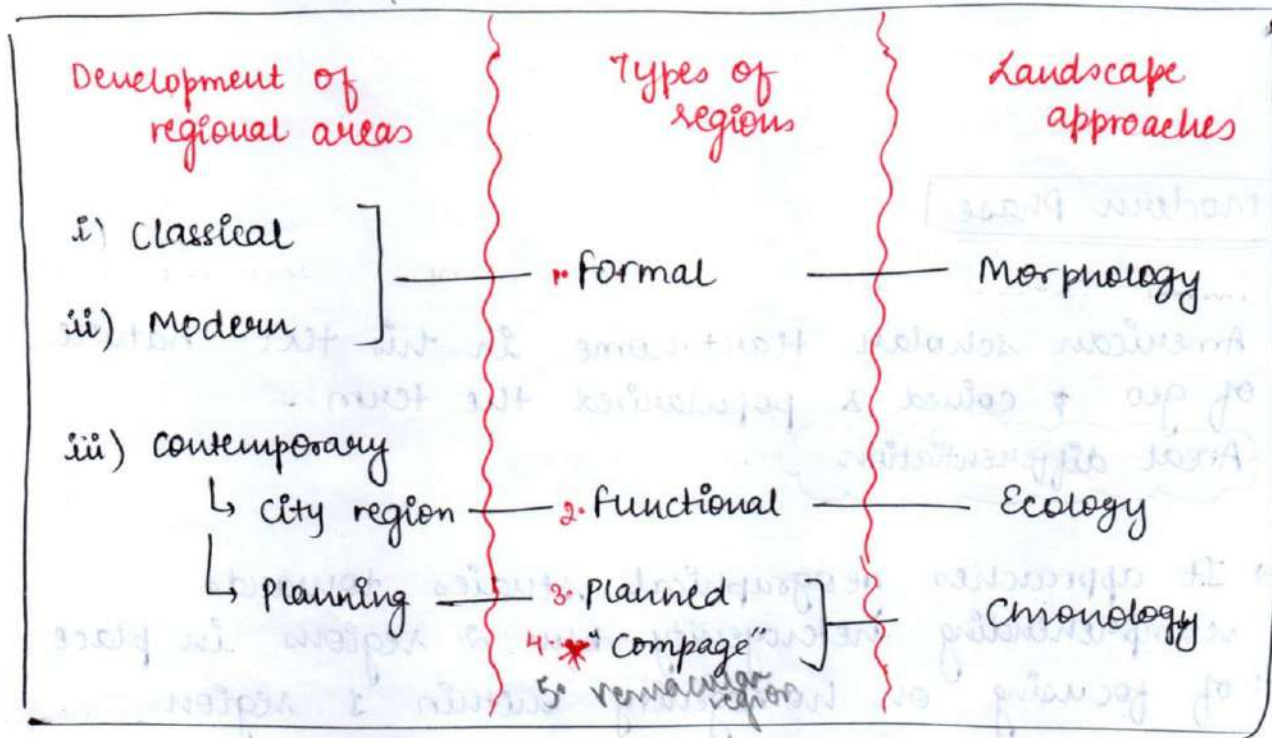
↳ this laid the foundation of modern phase of regional synthesis.

⊛ Combining the benefits of both systematic & regional studies.

⊛ Areal differentiation as empirical inductive or ideographic approach in geography sustained its geographical value & centrality (barring the exception of the decade of quantitative revolution) as this approach caters (addresses) all the aspects of uniqueness required to study, analyse, plan and monitor the progress from geographical perspective.

⊛ Validity of areal differentiation in geo thus relates to humanistic tradition, welfare approach, regional planning

→ what ques demands



Chronological Phases

Landscape (regional) approaches

I. Classical

Richtofen
Hettner

Blache
Bruhnes

**Formal
region**

(Homogenous)

→ A. Landscape

morphology

(characteristics
of
a place)

means
layout

II. Modern

Hartshorne (1939)

Areal differentiation

III. Contemporary

i) City regions &
regionalism (Dickinson)

**Functional
region**

(function
of
cities)

→ B. Landscape

ecology

(bca interactions)
eg. Port city func
is interaction)

ii) Planned region
Compagnon (Mittelman)

**Planned
region**

→ C. Landscape

chronology

Development evolves @ some nodes
creating regional #ies.

Contemporary Phase

- o with the publication of a text 'city region and regionalism (1947)', Dickinson added new dimension to regional synthesis.