Garbarino and Sasso Study Questions: Chapter 9

Explain the importance of gathering to the hunter-gatherer subsistence pattern. What sort of technology is used in gathering?

What types of animals were commonly hunted by native people? In addition to food, what sort of uses did the animals have?

How long is it estimated that the bow and arrow has been in use in the Americas? What was the hunting technology prior to its introduction? What are the different kinds of bows and what sorts of Indians are likely to use each kind?

How important was fishing to the native economy? Review some of the fishing methods used.

Among cultivators, what are the “big three” cultigens? Why? What are the goals of modern archaeology with respect to the investigation of these cultigens?

What sorts of farming implements were commonly used and of what materials were they made?

Once harvested, hunted, or gathered, what methods of food preservation were used?

Review the common methods used by native peoples for the preparation (cooking) of foods.

Be able to discuss the various forms of Indian housing, including their names, constructions methods, and places of geographic origins (e.g., igloos are an arctic construction).

How was the wheel used by native peoples in America? What beasts of burden did they have in pre-contact times? After contact?

Explain the differences in construction between dugout and bark canoes. What areas of the continent were likely to make each kind and what are the benefits and hindrances of both? Were any seaworthy craft made by native people?

Were skis or snowshoes used by any natives?

Review the common clothing and jewelry styles utilized in the various geographic areas of the continents. What materials were commonly used for clothing and jewelry? What do you think the primary determinant was as to what type of clothing was used in a particular area?

What were the purposes behind the artwork of native people? What were some of their methods for working in wood? What were bone and horn used for? Among what groups might we expect to find pottery?

Review techniques used in the manufacture of stone tools (flaked and ground), leather, metal, baskets, and textiles.
What is folklore?

Explain the concept of socialization, or as we shall call it, enculturation.

What is the common role of animals in native folklore? Are there any other common themes or characters?

Explain the fallacy of the Great Spirit and Happy Hunting Ground.

Explain the concept of Manitu, aka Orenda and Wakonda.

What are the two perceived causes of illness in traditional belief systems?

Review how the concept of the soul differs from group to group.

What are the methods one might use to engage in a vision quest and why would you want to have one?

What are the origins of the word “shaman” and how does this individual differ from a priest or a medicine man in his duties or obligations? Is shaman a male-only term? What is its plural form? What are some of the regional differences in the duties of Shamanic practitioners?

Is there a correlation between a group’s subsistence pattern and the types of ceremonies it is likely to practice? What is the pattern? What is the importance of tobacco in ceremonial uses?

Was some form of sacrifice used by native peoples? If so, what kinds and are they somehow similar?

What sorts of symbolism are found in sacred objects/religious paraphernalia?

**Key Terms (italicized words are either not found in the text or are poorly defined)**

- Agriculture
- Animatism
- Animism
- Atlatl
- Blowgun
- Catlinite
- Deadfall
- Great Spirit
- Horticulture
- Manitu
- Monotheism
- Pastoralism
- Priest
- Shaman
- Temper
- Tumpline
- Weir
- Breecclout
- Charm/fetish
- Earspool
- Hamerstone
- Hunter-gatherer
- Mano and metate
- Mortar and pestle
- Pemmican
- Pueblo
- Slip
- Tipi
- Viscera
- Wickiup