

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

1. On: *The Other Side of Eden*

Reflect on Monday's lecture, in which I went over the main characteristics of hunter-gatherer societies (refer also to the hand-out), and the book *The Other Side of Eden*. Can you see some of these characteristics in the modern-day indigenous Canadians that Brody describes or have these peoples totally lost their culture? Support your statements with examples from the book.

-OR-

Significant parts of the book *The Other Side of Eden* have to do with farmers (agriculturalists) and the contrast and conflicts between farmers and hunter-gatherers. The table I gave you is itself concerned with comparing/contrasting the four modes of subsistence, including farming and hunting-and-gathering. What points does Brody make that reinforce or contradict the information in the table?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

2. On: * The Other Side of Eden
* Kuper article

Kuper and Brody: What criticisms of the term “indigenous peoples” does Kuper have? What parts of Brody’s book would he find problematic, and why? Note: if you have a really hard time coming up with an answer to this last question on your own, [click here](#) (this takes you to excerpts from the longer, academic versions of Kuper’s article—from the journal *Current Anthropology*—in which he specifically critiques Brody’s book. Although I am essentially giving you the answer, make sure you thoroughly understand these critiques).

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

3. On: 🎧 “Atanarjuat”
🎧 “Nanook of the North”

“Atanarjuat” is an internationally acclaimed film by an Inuit producer, director, and screen-writer, featuring Inuit actors. Discuss both of the following questions: A) How does it differ in its depiction of traditional Inuit life from the early 1922 film “Nanook of the North” (give specific examples)? B) Why do you think it became so popular among people across the globe—what aspects of the film appealed to people, and were you surprised to hear of its phenomenal success?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

4. On: *Wallace article
📍 “Oil on Ice”

What ecological threats (bad) and what financial incentives (good) would drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge have posed for indigenous peoples? (Note that this past year, the energy bill that included drilling for oil in ANWR was overturned, meaning drilling will NOT take place.) Which indigenous group—the Gwich'in Indians or the Inupiat Eskimos—do you sympathize with and why?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

5. On: *The Other Side of Eden*

Much of Brody's book deals with the importance of language for indigenous peoples. Discuss one or more parts of this book that deal with the issue language, outlining Brody's argument and stating your own opinion on the matter.

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

6. On: * Sahlins article
* *The Other Side of Eden*

What is meant by the term “the indigenization of modernity”? What parts of the Brody book exemplify how indigenous peoples of Canada engage in “the indigenization of modernity”?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

7. On: *Ariaal Pastoralists of Kenya*

What is/are one/some aspect(s) of Ariaal culture that you find most interesting and why? Can you compare or contrast this/them with an American cultural practice or belief?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

8. On: *Ariaal Pastoralists of Kenya*

Indigenous peoples are often thought to be exemplars of ourselves at an earlier stage of human evolution. In this sense, they are assumed to be “a people without a history,” living the same lifestyle, in the same place, as they have since time immemorial. Fratkin, however, devotes significant space to refuting this assumption. What does he have to say about Ariaal history?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

9. On: *Ariaal Pastoralists of Kenya*

Drawing on the book *Ariaal Pastoralists of Kenya*, what are some of the more interesting and relevant aspects of their subsistence strategy (the way they survive, materially, and connect to their environment)?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

10. On: *Ariaal Pastoralists of Kenya*

Discuss one or more of the major changes that the Ariaal people now face. Is there a specific group or institution that is responsible for these changes, and do you think that these changes are for the better or for the worse?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

11. On: * Keck and Sikkink article
 🕒 “Between Midnight and the Rooster’s Crow”

Because indigenous peoples cannot depend on national political processes to solve their problems, they often affiliate with a transnational advocacy network (TAN). Explain how TANs function and why they are often successful. Use examples from the film “Between Midnight and the Rooster’s Crow” to illustrate some aspects of TANs.

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

12. On: * Conklin ① article
 📺 “The Kayapo: Out of the Forest”

“Strategic essentialism” is defined as “the intentional manipulation, projection, and homogenization by indigenous peoples of their cultural identities to accord with Western stereotypes.” Drawing on the film and article listed above, discuss how and why indigenous peoples engage in strategic essentialism to further their causes. Give examples.

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

13. On: * Conklin ① article
 * Conklin ② article

As Conklin ② (2002) argues, the Native American shaman has become a key figure in “pulp indigenism.” Why have shamans become such important indigenous figures at this point in time? Compare the present image that the Kayapo project of themselves with the earlier image, as described in Conklin ① (1997).

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

14. On: * Conklin ① article
 * Bending article

Bending describes two different ways that the Penan are represented: anti-environmentalist representations, and environmentalist representations. Describe these two representations. Do any of the points that Bending makes sound similar to (or different than) points made by Beth Conklin ① in her article “Body Paint, Feathers, and VCRs: Aesthetics and Authenticity in Amazonian Activism”?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

15. On: * Bevis article
 🕒 “Blowpipes and Bulldozers”

Discuss Bruno Manser, the Swiss man who lived and worked with Penan hunter-gatherers. In your opinion, is he a misguided romantic or a savvy activist? Would you critique or celebrate his interventions with the Penan? Make sure to support your discussion with concrete information and observations from the article and film.

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

16. On: *Vail article
*Jacka article
🎬 Film: “Mountains of Gold: The People of Porgera”

Review some of the most significant changes that have been introduced to local people by gold mining in Papua New Guinea (note that the article and film discuss two different gold mines that are quite close to one another: the Mt. Kare mine and the Porgera mine). Are any changes positive?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

17. On: *Clark article

Discuss how Huli notions of gender have been influenced by gold mining. This involves a discussion of Huli ideas about illness, pollution, and desire and the way that myths and “commodity fetishism” shape these ideas.

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

18. On: * Gedicks excerpt
* Bastian article
🎬 Film: “Ken Saro-Wiwa: An African Martyr”

How did people in both national and international circles respond to the Nigerian state’s murder of Ken Saro-Wiwa?¹ Include a thoughtful discussion of the discourses that circulated (things that were said) in the aftermath of his death. Also mention any concrete responses or lack thereof in response to the incident (actions and practices as opposed to simply discourses).

¹By “national circles,” I refer to Nigerian peoples, and by international circles, I refer to peoples outside of Nigeria, particularly Western activists and politicians.

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

19. On: * Roy article
* Kingsnorth article
🎬 Film: “Drowned Out: We Can’t Wish Them Away”

What are some of the most notable things that Arundhati Roy, the famous writer and activist, says about the Indian state and its decision to build the Narmada Valley dams? Support your discussion with concrete examples from the film. In reading her article (“The Greater Common Good”), do you think that Roy has achieved her aim of being a public intellectual who can communicate the scandal of the Narmada Dam project to the world in a clear and intelligible way?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

20. On: *any of the materials from this week (you must mention at least two items)

Are the Indian and Nigerian states utterly evil or can you understand why they acted as they did?
What can or should the international community have done to support indigenous peoples in these two struggles?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

21. On: * Ruether article
* Sturgeon article
🎬 Film: “Since the Company Came”

Do you believe in the claims of ecofeminists? Explain why or why not. Include in your discussion some examples of how the film “Since the Company Came” highlights ecofeminist claims.

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

22. On: * book, *Namoluk: Beyond the Reef*

From what you have read of the first 76 pages of the book, what are the major changes that the people of Namoluk have experienced since the time Mac Marshall first conducted research in the 1960s? Are there any continuities in life then and now?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

23. On: * book, *Namoluk: Beyond the Reef*

Compare the “virtual kinship” that Marshall describes in chapter 6 with the “primordial sentiments of shared identity” that he discusses in chapter 2. Elaborate your points with concrete examples.

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

24. On: * book, *Namoluk: Beyond the Reef*

What was Mac Marshall's argument, as put forth in chapter 1? What ethnographic (anthropological) observations from chapters 7 and 8 link back up to this argument?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

25. On: * Tilley article

Discuss the issue of “authenticity” as it arises in situations when indigenous peoples engage in ecotourism. What points does Tilley make with regard to the question of authenticity, and do you agree?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

26. On: * Hoskins article

Discuss how Indonesian people in Sumba view Western tourists, summarizing some of the points that Hoskins makes.

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

27. On: * book, *Paradise in Ashes*
🎬 Film, “When Mountains Tremble”

As Manz discusses on pages 9-11, the validity of the Nobel-Prize-winning indigenous activist Rigoberta Menchu has been challenged by the anthropologist David Stoll, who claims that Menchu made up many parts of her life history in the book *I, Rigoberta Menchu*. You just viewed the film, “When Mountains Tremble,” which is based on the book *I, Rigoberta Menchu*. What parts were most memorable and likely to stir the sympathies of Western viewers? Is it okay to make up or exaggerate scenes like this for the sake of garnering international support?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

28. On: * book, *Paradise in Ashes*

Discuss some of the difficulties that the Mayan settlers faced both before and after the war. How do the troubles faced by the Mayans compare to the troubles faced by other indigenous peoples whom we have studied?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

29. On: * book, *Paradise in Ashes*

Discuss the return of the Mayan peoples to their village. What problems did the refugees face and how did they overcome them? What tone does Manz adopt when writing about the refugees and their resettlement (optimistic, pessimistic, critical, admirable, other)?

ANTH 223: Indigenous Peoples, the Environment, & the Global Economy
Thought Questions

30. On: * book, *Paradise in Ashes*

Discuss one or more things that you learned about in this book that you did not already know. What information did you think was most relevant and/or interesting? Would you recommend using this book in the future?