

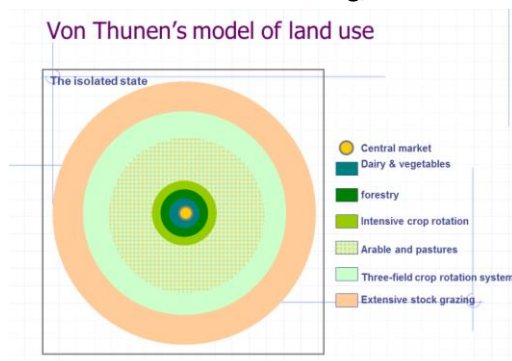


121 EC Economic Geography Test 11 June 2015

Name: **Surname:** **Student ID Number:**.....

Marks are expressed in "X/30". Open questions are worth 5 points each, multiple choices 3 points each for a total of 30/30 points.

- 1) Space is complex, but economic geographers try to simplify it in order to observe how spatial elements behave. In particular many models of location theory share common initial assumptions about space:
 - a. Space is modified by water bodies, hills, mountains, depressions.
 - b. Space is homogeneous and isotropic. That means that no barriers or orography are considered.
 - c. Location theories do not consider space
- 2) John Heinrich Von Thunen in 1826 wrote 'The Isolated State', an essay in which he studied the effects of a unique urban central market on the distribution of cultivations in a homogeneous space. The picture illustrates the organization of cultivations around a central market according to his model. Highlight the correct statement of the following, related to the figure on the left.



- a. Space is anisotropic, the means that woods, rivers, hills change the orography and the pattern drawn by cultivations.
 - b. Perishable goods can be preserved in refrigerators and can be produced everywhere in space.
 - c. Positional rent articulates a physically uniform space in zones with specific land uses, corresponding to computable distances from the central place.
- 3) Geographers borrowed from physics a variation of the gravity law, applying it to places on the Earth's surface. One of the following sentences related to gravitation in space is true.
 - a. The dimensions of two places in space have a power of attraction on other geographical features, but distance is not important.
 - b. The volume of interaction between two centres is directly proportional to the product of the different populations and inversely proportional to the distances separating them.
 - c. Only distance determines the attraction of one place over a territory.
- 4) Transport systems allows goods and people to be moved in space, can rely on different means and infrastructure and hold peculiar characteristics. State which of the following statement is correct.
 - a. Transport costs increase with distance, but less than proportionally.
 - b. Road transport (by car or bus) is the cleanest transport mode we can find.
 - c. Air transport is best suited for short distance connections.



- 5) The theory of urban rent (or bid rent theory) deals with the different activities competing for urban land use. Mark the correct statement (only one is true):
- a. Retail activities gain the highest utility by being central and located at major road network intersections.
 - b. Single families residential activities finds always place in extraurban locations.
 - c. Land use values in the city centre are higher for residential activites rather than retail.
- 6) Explain what is the demographic transition, in its different stages, and what are the elements that control and influence them.

- 7) Industries tend to cluster in space, and in many parts of the world they create industrial districts or industrial clusters. Explain what are the main characters of industrial districts or industrial clusters and what areas of the World host some of the most important clusters (use a separate sheet if necessary).

- 8) Present and discuss briefly a topic of your choice, referred to some spatial aspects tackled during the course [the topic can be referred also to a paper or a video analysed in class] (use a separate sheet if necessary).
