

IV. Language Policies + the Cultural Landscape.

* Language is intertwined with a place and its landscape

Ex: Hawaiians have 5 dozen words for fishing nets.

* Sizes reflect heritage

A. Toponyms

1. Remember names of places: they reflect culture

Ex: Byzantium → Constantinople → Istanbul

B. Official languages

1. A language designated by law to be the language of the government

a) USA does NOT have one

2. Countries that do fall into 3 categories

a) Homogeneous countries

- made up of largely ethnically similar people

Ex: Iceland, Japan, Slovenia

b) Language is used to discourage people from maintaining a traditional culture.

Ex: Ireland, Scotland, Wales

c) Countries that have several large ethnic groups, and want to honor all of them equally.

Ex: Zimbabwe has 16 official languages.