

Q) Define Anthropology. What are its branches and Subbranches?

Anthropology

It is the study of people - their origins, their development and contemporary variations, wherever and whenever they have been found.

Anthropology So, its a study of humans

↓ ↓
Anthropos Study

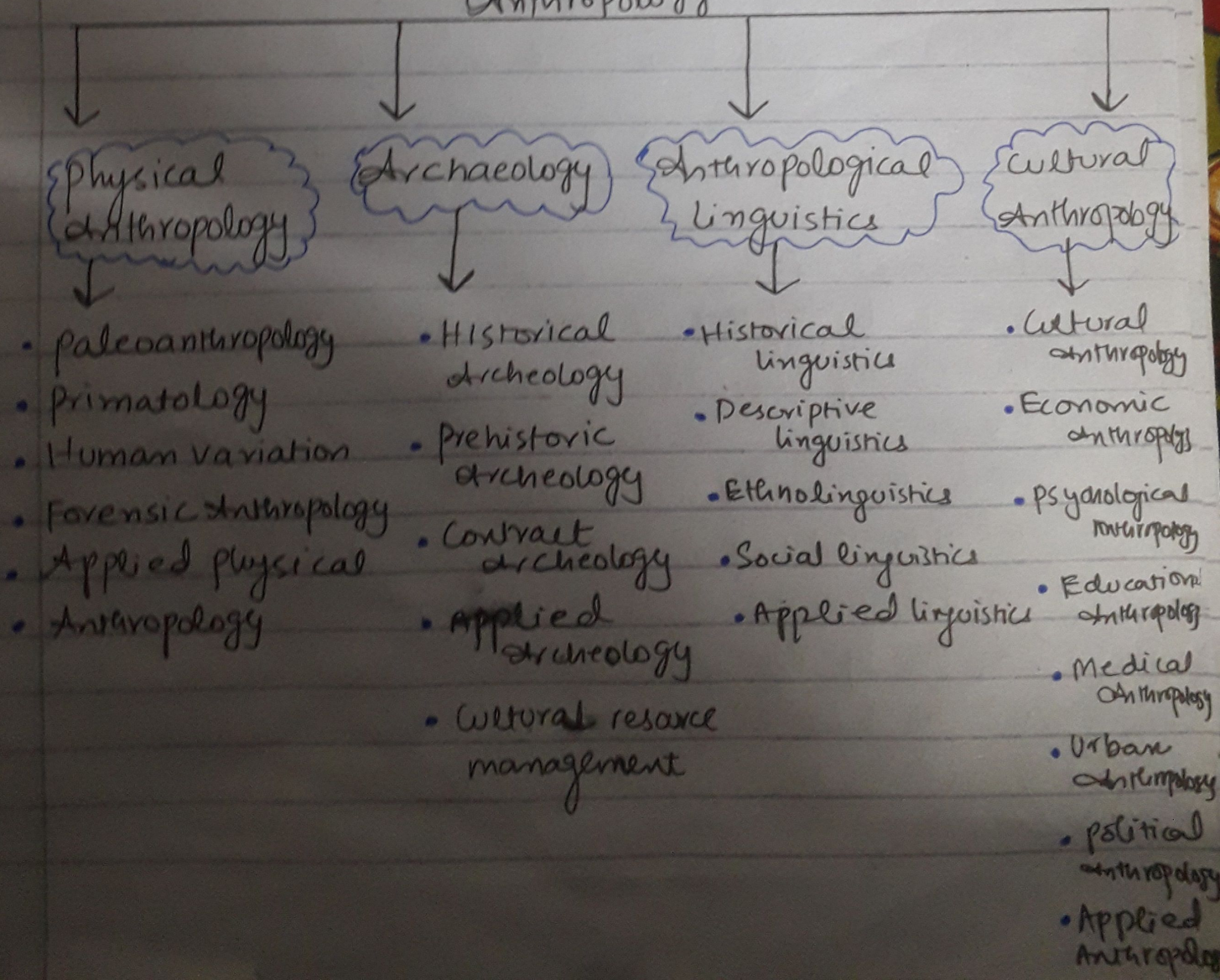
Broadest Scope

Among all disciplines that study humans, anthropology is far the broadest in scope.

* Richard Harvey first coined the English term Anthropology

Branches and Subbranches of Anthropology

Anthropology



Physical Anthropology

- The study of humans from a biological perspective is called as physical anthropology.
- It has further subbranches
- It deals with two key concepts: human biological evolution & human biocultural variations.

Sub.branches of physical Anthropology

① Paleoanthropology

Definition:

The study of origins and predecessors of the present human species, using fossils and other remains.

Example:

calcium-rich remains such as eggshells, bones and teeth can be analyzed isotopically to determine what types of vegetation those animals consumed.

② Primatology

Definition:

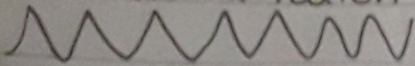
The study of the behavior, biology, evolution and taxonomy of nonhuman primates.

Example:

Non-human primates are group of mammals composed of simians - monkeys and apes & prosimians, such as lemurs.

So, study of them as mammalian relatives. e.g monkey of new and old world, lesser apes and greater apes.

③ Human Variation

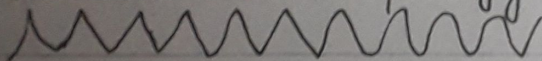


Def: The comparative study of human beings at the level of genetics or the particular characteristics that appeared because of genes, inheritance is known as the human variation.

Example:

Genetic variation results in different forms, or alleles of genes. e.g. eye colour; people with blue eyes have one allele of the gene for eye colour, whereas people with brown eyes will have a different allele of the gene.

④ Forensic Anthropology



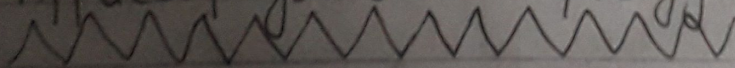
Definition:

The study of human remains that involves applying skeletal analysis and techniques in archaeology to solve criminal cases.

Example:

DNA, trace evidence, finger prints or ballistics reports can provide proof to establish a person's guilt or innocence.

⑥ Applied Physical Anthropology



Def: The study of use of anthropological knowledge and skills to solve real-world problems.

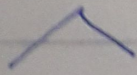
Example:

e.g. working with a company to determine how to market a product while being culturally sensitive.

Archaeology

- It is a subfield of Anthropology
- The study of prehistoric and historic cultures through the excavation of material remains
- It includes two things

①
Artifact
A type of material remain (found by archaeologists) that has been made or modified by humans. Such as tools, arrowheads and so on.



②
Features
Archaeological remains that have been made or modified by people and cannot be easily carried away such as house foundations, fireplaces and postholes.

- It has further subbranches.

① Historical Archaeology

Definition:

The study of the material remains of past societies that also left behind documentary and oral histories.

Example:

The discovery and decipherment of the Rosetta Stone. The Rosetta Stone is a large slab of marble discovered near Rashid, Egypt by French archaeologists in 1799. It became an important tool of historic archaeology.

② Prehistoric Archaeology

Definition:

The study of the existence of human civilizations before the keeping of historical records began. It is a branch of study in which the past is studied before establishing urban and metropolitan human dynamics.

Example:

Archaeologists studying the Clovis people, have only arrowheads called projectile points and stone tools as artifacts.

③ Contract Archeology

Definition

Contract archaeology (often called "rescue" or salvage archaeology). It is the study of archaeological survey and excavation carried out, under commercial contract, in areas threatened by, or revealed by, construction or other development.

Example

Contract archaeology was being seen by the museums and universities as the best avenue to the subsidizing of archaeological research. OCA is a cultural resources management program (CRM) established in 1973 at the University of New Mexico.

* OCA = Office of Contract Archaeology

④ Applied Archeology

Definition

The study of application of archaeological research and techniques to uncover the history of an area.

Example

One of the most important areas of applied archaeology is agriculture. Learning how ancient cultures grew and irrigated their crops in challenging landscapes may help impoverished areas develop a higher standard of living.

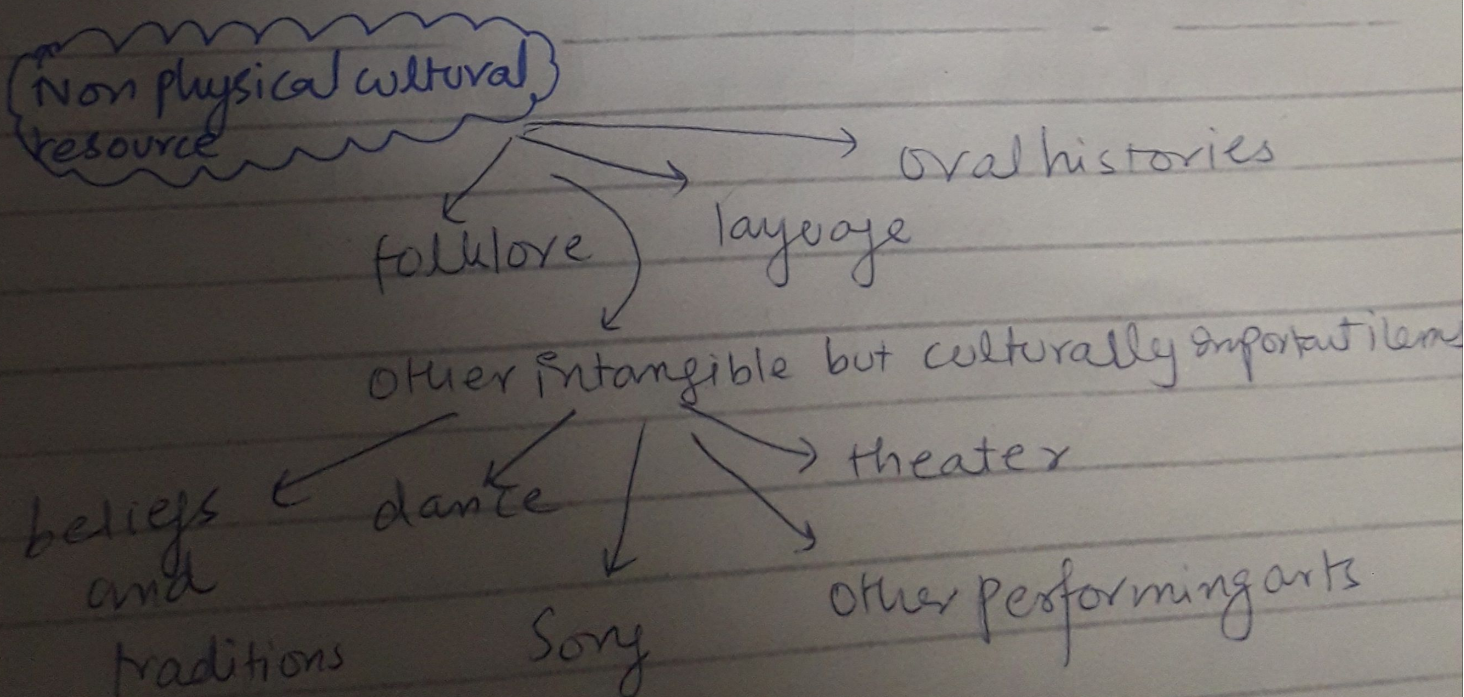
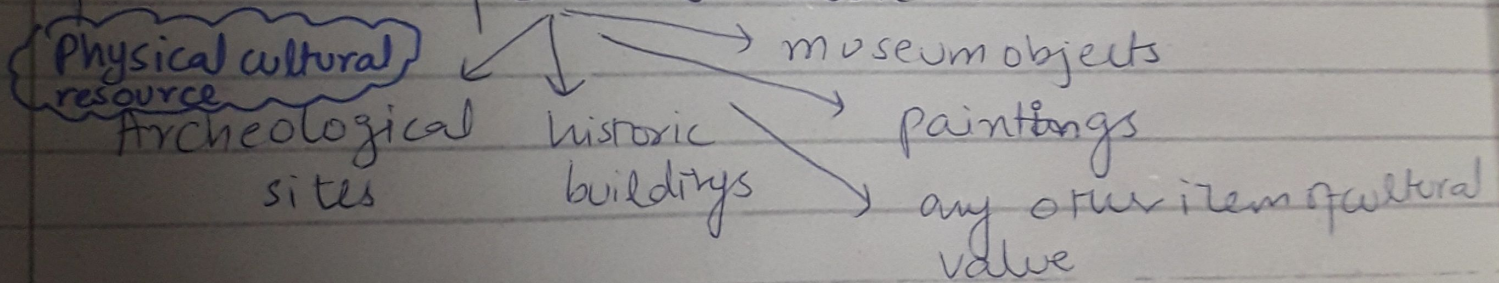
⑤ Cultural Resource Management

Def Cultural resource management, normally referred to as "CRM" may be defined as study of cultural heritage management within a framework of federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines.

It is similar to the heritage programs in other countries.

Example

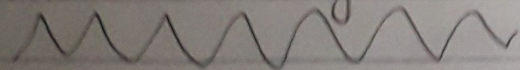
preservation of cultural resources.



Anthropological Linguistics

- The study of the relationship between language and culture. It usually refers to work on language that have no written records.
- It has various subbranches.

① Historical Linguistics



Def The study of how language change over time. It is about the general study of language change and the history of specific languages and language families.

Example

This is also known as Comparative Linguistics.

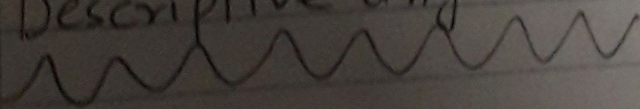
Languages that evolve from a common source are genetically related. These languages were once dialects of the same language.

Earlier forms of Germanic languages such as German, English & Swedish were dialects of Proto-Germanic, while earlier forms of Roman languages such as Spanish, French and Italian were dialects of Latin. Furthermore earlier forms of Proto-Germanic & Latin were once dialects of Indo-European.

* Other Example:-

Old English	499-1066 CE	Beowulf
Middle English	1066-1500 CE	Canterbury Tales
Modern English	1500-Present	Shakespeare

② Descriptive Linguistics



Definition

It studies how languages are structured.

It investigates the form and function of languages.

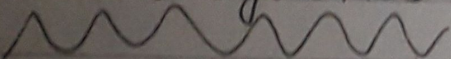
applying theoretical approaches to the analysis of descriptive and sociolinguistic data.

Example

Every culture has distinctive language with its own logical structure and set of rules for putting words and sounds together for purpose of communication.

Simply, the task of the descriptive linguist is to compile dictionaries and grammar books for previous unwritten languages.

③ Ethnolinguistics



Definition

The study of the interrelation between a language and the cultural behaviour of those who speak it.

Example

According to the ethnicity people speak

Punjabis (Punjab) → Punjabi 48%

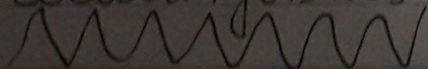
Pashtuns (KPK) → Pashto 8%

Sindhis (Sindh) → Sindhi 12%

Balochis (Balochistan) → Balochi 3%

Hindko speaking → 2% etc

④ Sociolinguistics



Def

The study of sociological aspects of language.

It concerns itself with the part language plays in maintaining the social roles in a community.

Example

African American Vernacular English (AAVE) is a good example of variety of English that has been affected by social factors, such as race, geographical

location and Socioeconomic status

⑤ Applied linguistics

Definition

It is the study of understanding how language and communication works, and being able to communicate effectively in all contexts.

Example

- Early language acquisition studies in infants and children, particularly multilingual and deaf children.
- Speech pathology, helping people with speech disorders.
- Dialect Coaching for actors in film & TV
- Language revival efforts for languages in the region

Cultural Anthropology

- The study that addresses broad questions about what it means to be human in contemporary societies and cultures, as well as those of the recent past
- It has various sub branches.

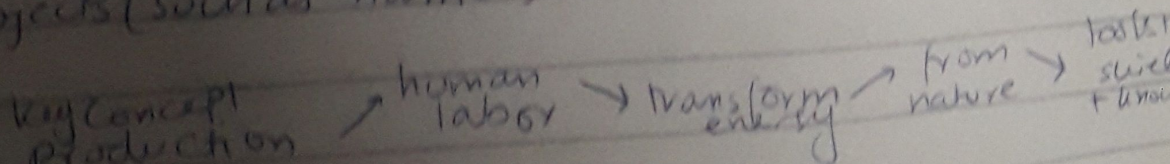
① Economic Anthropology

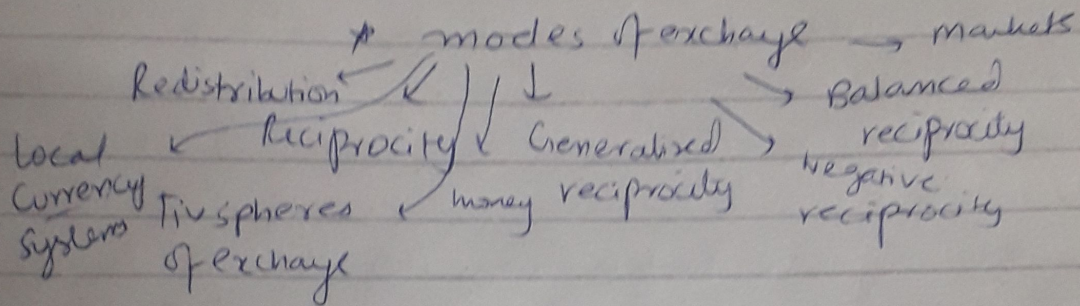
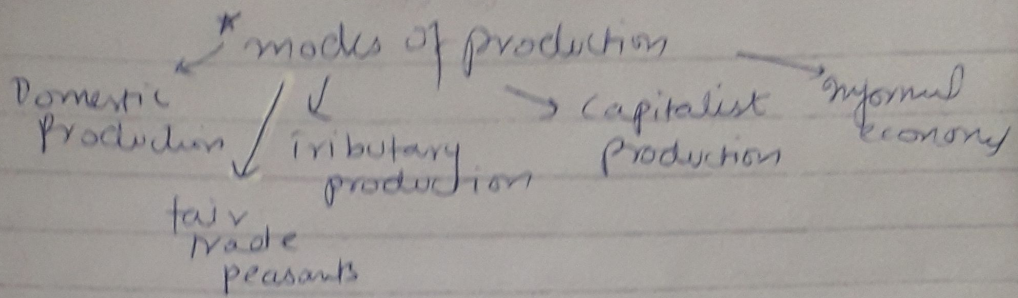
Definition

It is the study of processes of production, circulation and consumption of different sorts of objects in social settings. 'objects' include material things, as well as what people do for each other (such as provide labour and services) and less visible objects (such as names, ideas and so forth).

Example

mode of production





② Psychological Anthropology

Definition

The study of psychological topics using anthropological concepts and methods.

Example

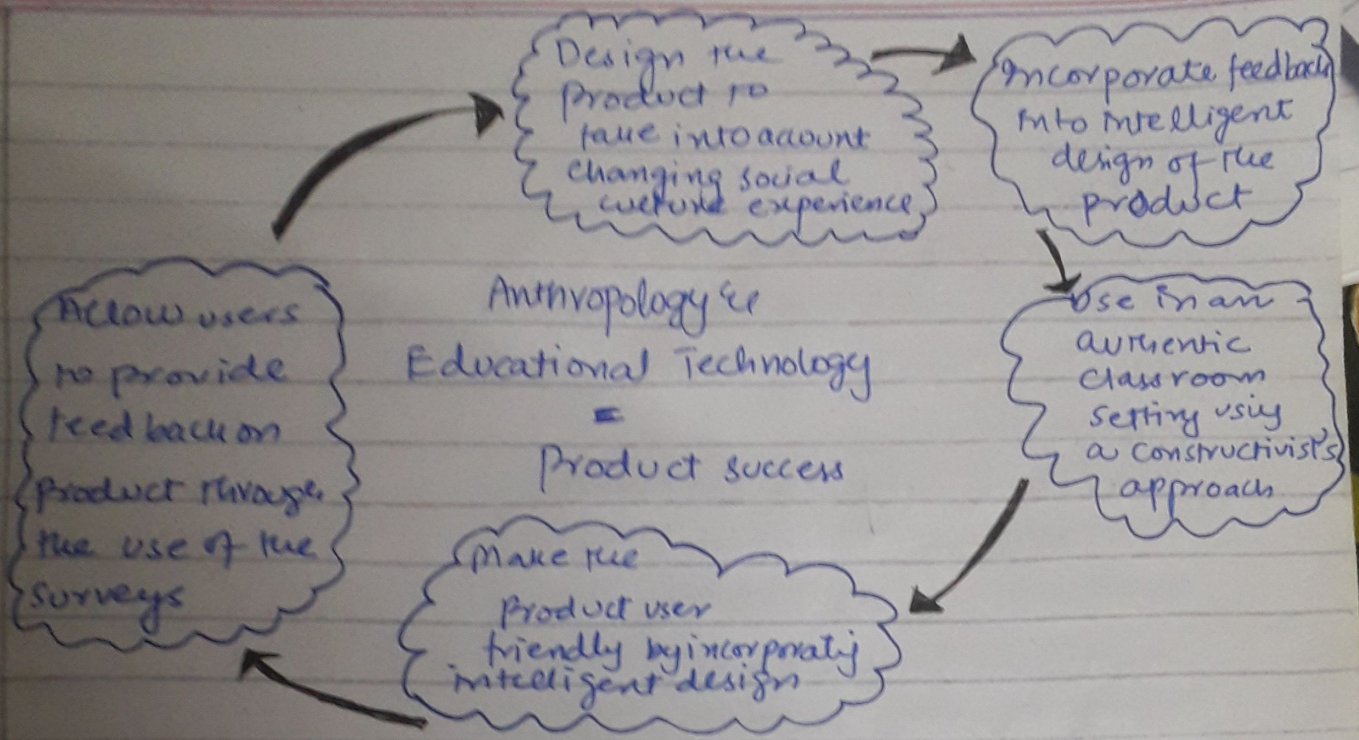
Psychologists studying eating disorders (Anorexia or bulimia) are more common today than they were a century ago. What in our culture is contributing to the high incidence of eating disorders. So, they study relationship of personality variables to the eating disorders.

③ Educational Anthropology

Definition

The study of analyzing cultural relations and social processes in educational context.

Example



① Medical Anthropology

Definition

The study of social, cultural, biological & linguistic anthropology to better understand those factors which influence health & well being. The experience and distribution of illness, the prevention and treatment of sickness healing processes, the social relations of therapy management and the cultural importance and utilisation of pluralistic medical systems.

Example

Popular health culture and domestic health care practices.

Preventative health and harm reduction practices

Disease distribution and health disparity etc

So medical anthropologists study such issues as aforementioned.

⑤ Urban Anthropology

Definition

The study of urban structures and processes, that is influenced by various political, economic, social and cultural elements.

Example

Walled city of Lahore

In contrast to today's planned urban communities walled city of Lahore have a deep and complex social and emotional meaning that has been built through centuries.

- Variety of traditions: dominance, violence, friendliness & reciprocity
- Closeness of living is characterized by the sensory interaction with individuals that may include face-to-face interactions, criticality, sights, the aroma of preparing food, the sound of washing clothes, arguments or violence.

⑥ Political Anthropology

Definition

It is the study of politics in a broad range of historical, social and cultural settings.

Example

In west, the idea of government within the framework of the state and through the medium of specialised political and legal institutions (e.g. parliament, police and law courts). Such forms are not found world wide now.

③ Cultural Anthropology

Definition

The study that addresses broad questions about what it means to be human in contemporary societies and cultures, as well as those of recent past.

Example

Living with a group, participating and observing everything about their culture.

e.g. West and East have different cultures. Similarly within a country exists different cultures.

Punjabis have some different traditions and culture like folk stories, dance, food.

Balochi have sort of siraki dance, clothes.

Pashtons have different clothes, food, tastes.

⑤ Applied Anthropology

Definition

The study of the use of anthropological knowledge and skills to solve real world problems.

Example

Anthropologists work in local communities helping to solve problems related to health, education or the environment.

They might also work for museums or national or state park helping to interpret history.