The Root of World's Inequality #1

November 16th, 1532 was ____ _____ _____ in world history. A Spanish _____ Francisco Pizarro and his 168 soldiers _____ _____ Inca Emperor Atahualpa _____ ____ 80,000 warriors. Pizarro's army, _____ _____ steel swords and armors, dominated the Incan soldiers with _____ _____. Records show that more than 7,000 Inca soldiers were killed in this battle. This event was _____ ____ the European conquest of South America.
From the 16th to the 19th century, _____ _____ occurred in Africa, Australia, and other areas _____ ____ _____. Local inhabitants were _____, _____, and _____ _____ their land by Europeans with advanced tools and powerful weapons, while the Western societies achieved further development by _____ _____ and resources from these regions. Why did Europeans _____ _____ continents, rather than the other way around?
The _____ _____ are already clear. Europeans developed _____ _____ before the other parts of the world did, so they could enjoy _____ ____ _____ _____. However, this doesn't fully answer the question. The point is how they gained these advantages ____ ____ _____ _____. Why was it Europe that first developed _____ _____ and advanced technologies? Why did the world ever become ____ _____?

November 16th, 1532 was a crucial moment in world history. A Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro and his 168 soldiers successfully captured Inca Emperor Atahualpa guarded by 80,000 warriors. Pizarro's army, equipped with steel swords and armors, dominated the Incan soldiers with primitive weapons. Records show that more than 7,000 Inca soldiers were killed in this battle. This event was decisive in the European conquest of South America.
From the 16th to the 19th century, similar events occurred in Africa, Australia, and other areas across the globe. Local inhabitants were decimated, enslaved, and expelled from their land by Europeans with advanced tools and powerful weapons, while the Western societies achieved further development by exploiting labor and resources from these regions. Why did Europeans conquer other continents, rather than the other way around?
The immediate explanations are already clear. Europeans developed advanced technologies before the other parts of the world did, so they could enjoy military and economic supremacy. However, this doesn't fully answer the question. The point is how they gained these advantages in the first place. Why was it Europe that first developed complex societies and advanced technologies? Why did the world ever become so unequal?

crucial	極めて重要な		conquest	征服
conquistador	征服者（スペインの征服者）		decimate	壊滅させる
capture	捕らえる		enslave	奴隷にする
guard	護衛する		exploit	搾取する、利用する
dominate	圧倒する		supremacy	優位性、覇権
decisive	決定的な		unequal	不平等な

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The Root of World's Inequality #2

In the centuries after 1500 AD, European explorers _____ _____ ____ the wide gaps among the world's peoples in technology and political organization, and they often _____ _____ _____ to _____ _____ differences between races. They thought they were _____ _____ to the native population. To them, it was natural that European societies were _____ ____ _____ more advanced simply because they were more intelligent. However, this answer is ____ _____ _____, but also wrong. There is ____ _____ _____ of genetic differences in _____ _____ among peoples of different races or cultures. It's quite unlikely that Europeans are _____ _____ than people in other regions. If there is no genetic difference in our ability between races, why did some cultures _____ _____ _____ _____? In a word, the answer _____ ____ geography. Some parts of the world have had more _____ _____ for prosperity. Particularly, European societies have been _____ _____ suitable environments for agriculture. Their environmental advantages at the beginning have been _____, _____, and thereby translated into a huge technological gap in the 16th Century. If the native Americans or Aboriginals had enjoyed the same geographic advantages, they _____ _____ _____ the ones to invent steel weapons and _____ _____, and would have _____ ____ _____ the rest of the world. It is geography that _____ ____ _____ of human societies, ____ _____ _____.

In the centuries after 1500 AD, European explorers became aware of the wide gaps among the world's peoples in technology and political organization, and they often attributed these disparities to innate biological differences between races. They thought they were genetically superior to the native population. To them, it was natural that European societies were culturally and technologically more advanced simply because they were more intelligent. However, this answer is not just arrogant, but also wrong. There is no firm evidence of genetic differences in intellectual ability among peoples of different races or cultures. It's quite unlikely that Europeans are inherently smarter than people in other regions. If there is no genetic difference in our ability between races, why did some cultures develop faster than others? In a word, the answer lies in geography. Some parts of the world have had more ideal conditions for prosperity. Particularly, European societies have been blessed with suitable environments for agriculture. Their environmental advantages at the beginning have been accumulated, amplified, and thereby translated into a huge technological gap in the 16th Century. If the native Americans or Aboriginals had enjoyed the same geographic advantages, they would have been the ones to invent steel weapons and steam engines, and would have conquered and colonized the rest of the world. It is geography that determines the fate of human societies, not humans themselves.

disparity	格差、差異		distribution	分布
innate	生まれつきの		prosperity	繁栄
genetically	遺伝的に		amplify	拡大する、増幅する
superior	優れている		Aboriginal	アボリジニの、先住民の
inherently	本質的に、生まれつき		colonize	植民地化する
diverse	多様な		determine	決定する

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The Root of World's Inequality #3

Human history _____ millions of years, and most of the time, our ancestors had lived as _____. They _____ _____ _____ by running across the savanna to hunt wild animals and walking through the woods to gather wild food plants. Around 13,000 years ago, the last ____ ____ ended and some people began _____ plants and animals. There were _____ ____ ____ _____ of the ancient world that developed farming _____, but in most places where farming began, a large advanced civilization _____. Farming seems _____ ____ the arrival of civilization for several reasons. First, agriculture can sustain a population ____ _____ _____ than that of a hunter-gatherer lifestyle ____ _____ _____. A large and dense population is _____ ____ a centralized government, military power, and _____ _____. Also, farming produces _____ _____ _____, with which some people _____ _____ ____ work to get food. They can spend their time _____ ____ developing advanced technologies, such as _____ and manufacturing. By contrast, in hunter-gatherer society, basically all members have to engage in collecting food, so they are ____ _____ feeding themselves to develop new technologies. The _____ ____ _____ was clearly a decisive turning point in human history.

Human history spans millions of years, and most of the time, our ancestors had lived as hunter-gatherers. They made their living by running across the savanna to hunt wild animals and walking through the woods to gather wild food plants. Around 13,000 years ago, the last Ice Age ended and some people began domesticating plants and animals. There were only a few parts of the ancient world that developed farming independently, but in most places where farming began, a large advanced civilization emerged. Farming seems crucial for the arrival of civilization for several reasons. First, agriculture can sustain a population 100 times larger than that of a hunter-gatherer lifestyle per unit area. A large and dense population is necessary for a centralized government, military power, and effective cooperation. Also, farming produces extra food surplus, with which some people don't have to work to get food. They can spend their time specializing in developing advanced technologies, such as metallurgy and manufacturing. By contrast, in hunter-gatherer society, basically all members have to engage in collecting food, so they are too busy feeding themselves to develop new technologies. The transition to farming was clearly a decisive turning point in human history.

hunter-gatherer	狩猟採集民		sustain	支える、維持する
savanna	サバンナ		dense	高密度の
domesticate	家畜化する、栽培化する		surplus	余剰、余り
independently	独自に		metallurgy	冶金学
civilization	文明		transition	移行、転換
fertility	肥沃さ			

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The Root of World's Inequality #4

For agriculture to be ____ _____ ____ technological development, it has to be ____ _____ ____ ____ producing food, and for agriculture to be efficient, there have to be _____ _____ and animals for domestication. There were only a few species suitable for domestication, and they were _____ _____ around the world. Some of the most productive crop species were _____ _____ _____ in the Eurasian Continent; wheat and barley were growing wild in the _____ _____ in the Middle East, and rice _____ _____ a southwest part of China. Eurasia also had the best animals for farming. The vast majority of wild animals have never been farmed because they _____ _____ the requirements for domestication. For example, _____ such as lions don't make economic sense to domesticate because you have to raise other animals just to feed them. They also have to be _____ _____ and ____ _____ _____ humans. For example, zebras _____ horses and thereby seem to make a good candidate. However, they are not suited because they have become _____ _____ as they have survived amidst Africa's great _____. Throughout history, _____ ____ large mammal species have ever been successfully farmed. Out of these 14, _____ ____ _____ Australia, North America or sub-Saharan Africa. South America only had llama. The other 13 were all from the _____ _____, including cows, pigs, sheep and goats. In short, the rise of productive agriculture is ____ ____ _____ ____ human effort or _____, but rather a matter of _____ _____. Eurasian societies advanced faster largely because they were blessed with these _____ _____, and never because they were more intelligent or _____. Although _____ _____ play a role, the _____ _____ of human history is largely shaped by geographical factors.

For agriculture to be the basis for technological development, it has to be an efficient way of producing food, and for agriculture to be efficient, there have to be productive plants and animals for domestication. There were only a few species suitable for domestication, and they were unequally distributed around the world. Some of the most productive crop species were only growing wild in the Eurasian Continent; wheat and barley were growing wild in the Fertile Crescent in the Middle East, and rice originated from a southwest part of China. Eurasia also had the best animals for farming. The vast majority of wild animals have never been farmed because they don't meet the requirements for domestication. For example, carnivores such as lions don't make economic sense to domesticate because you have to raise other animals just to feed them. They also have to be social animals and get along with humans. For example, zebras resemble horses and thereby seem to make a good candidate. However, they are not suited because they have become nervous creatures as they have survived amidst Africa's great predators. Throughout history, only 14 large mammal species have ever been successfully farmed. Out of these 14, none was from Australia, North America or sub-Saharan Africa. South America only had llama. The other 13 were all from the Eurasian Continent, including cows, pigs, sheep and goats. In short, the rise of productive agriculture is not a matter of human effort or ingenuity, but rather a matter of environmental luck. Eurasian societies advanced faster largely because they were blessed with these geographic advantages, and never because they were more intelligent or diligent. Although historical coincidences play a role, the broad trajectory of human history is largely shaped by geographical factors.

basis	基盤、土台		predator	捕食者
Fertile Crescent	肥沃な三日月地帯		livestock	家畜
carnivore	肉食動物		ingenuity	創意工夫、独創性
economic	経済的な、採算の取れる		trajectory	軌跡、発展の方向性
candidate	候補		geographical	地理的な

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The Root of World's Inequality #5

After all, the _____ ____ _____ around the globe will eventually _____ _____ ____ environmental luck. Eurasian societies advanced earlier because the continent was _____ _____ in various aspects. Firstly, they had access to the best crops and animals for domestication. Particularly, the Fertile Crescent was blessed with the _____ _____ _____, including wheat and sheep, which gave the Middle East ____ _____ _____ in ancient times. Another advantage for Eurasian societies is ____ _____ ____ the continent. Eurasia is _____ _____ _____ ____ _____, while the American Continents and African Continent are long from north to south. Therefore, Europe, the Middle East, India and China are all at ____ _____ _____ ____ latitude. Any places that share the same latitude _____ _____ similar climate and _____, so crops and animals in the Middle East can also _____ ____ many other parts of the continent. On the other hand, the journey from ____ ____ ____ America to the other is a journey through _____ _____ _____ and vegetation. These differences _____ ____ _____ of crops and animals, ____ _____ ____ people, ideas, and technologies. It is _____ _____ to come up with a new idea _____ _____, so it is much faster to _____ ____ _____ an innovation from others. For example, the idea of _____ _____ apparently arose _____ _____ in human history. European cultures have _____ this invention and developed their own. With _____ _____ _____, Eurasian cultures were able to _____ _____ and _____ _____ their development. From the _____ ____ _____, the most advanced civilizations have always been found on the Eurasian continent. Geography has _____ ____ _____ ____ human history. After all, Homo sapiens have been _____ _____ ____ the environments in which they find themselves.

After all, the roots of inequality around the globe will eventually come down to environmental luck. Eurasian societies advanced earlier because the continent was geographically blessed in various aspects. Firstly, they had access to the best crops and animals for domestication. Particularly, the Fertile Crescent was blessed with the most productive species, including wheat and sheep, which gave the Middle East a head start in ancient times. Another advantage for Eurasian societies is the shape of the continent. Eurasia is long from east to west, while the American Continents and African Continent are long from north to south. Therefore, Europe, the Middle East, India and China are all at the same line of latitude. Any places that share the same latitude automatically share similar climate and vegetation, so crops and animals in the Middle East can also thrive in many other parts of the continent. On the other hand, the journey from one end of America to the other is a journey through different climate zones and vegetation. These differences prevented the spread of crops and animals, as well as people, ideas, and technologies. It is extremely difficult to come up with a new idea from scratch, so it is much faster to learn and imitate an innovation from others. For example, the idea of phonetic alphabet apparently arose only once in human history. European cultures have inherited this invention and developed their own. With fewer geographical barriers, Eurasian cultures were able to share inventions and mutually accelerate their development. From the onset of agriculture, the most advanced civilizations have always been found on the Eurasian continent. Geography has shaped the course of human history. After all, Homo sapiens have been largely shaped by the environments in which they find themselves.

latitude	緯度		phonetic	音声の、表音の
vegetation	植生		inherit	受け継ぐ
thrive	繁栄する、よく育つ		barrier	障壁
climate zone	気候帯		contingency	偶然性、予測不能な出来事
innovation	革新、新発明		interplay	相互作用

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