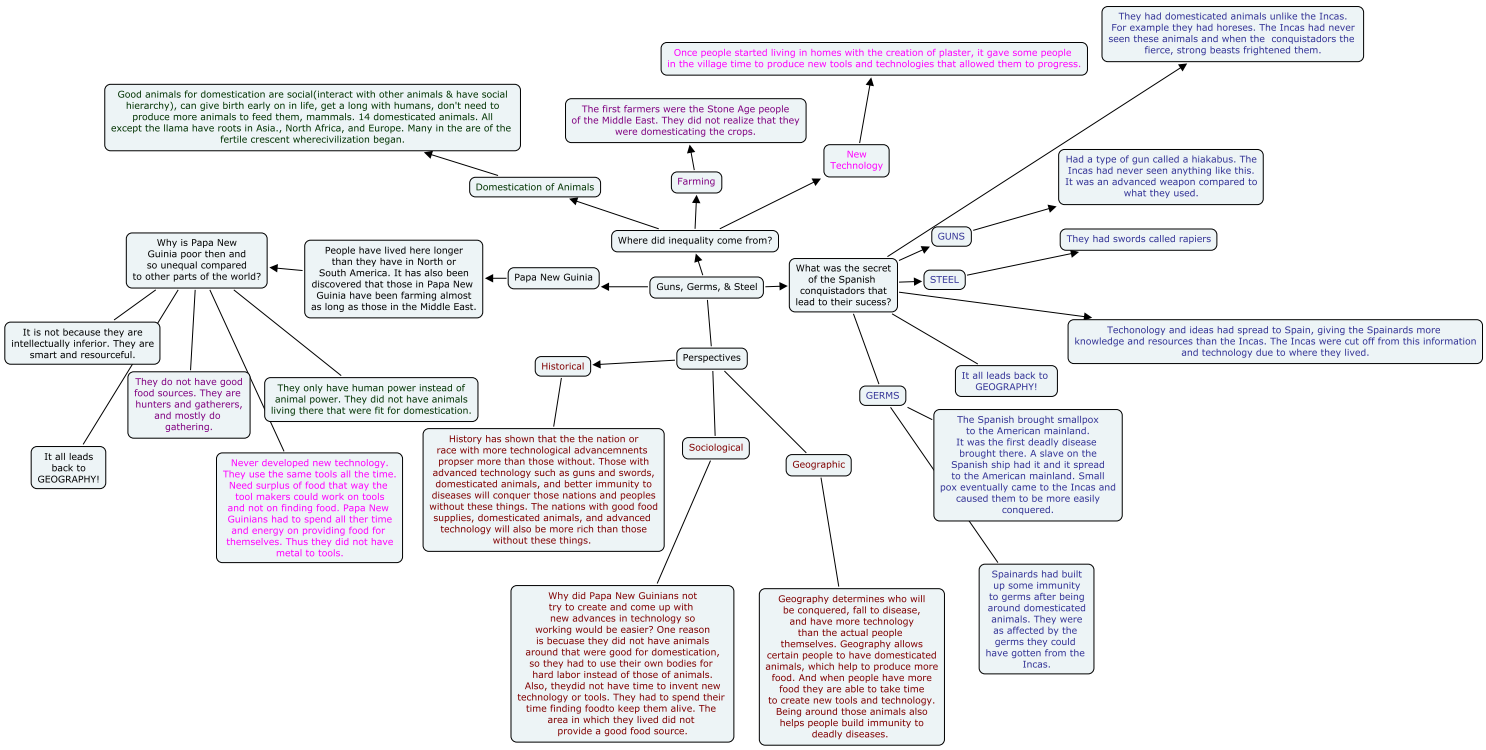
Guns, Germs, & Steel
Where did inequality come from?
Farming
The first farmers were the Stone Age people of the Middle East. They did not realize that they were domesticating the crops.
New Technology
Once people started living in homes with the creation of plaster, it gave some people in the village time to produce new tools and technologies that allowed them to progress.
Domestication of Animals
Good animals for domestication are social(interact with other animals & have social hierarchy), can give birth early on in life, get a long with humans, don't need to produce more animals to feed them, mammals. 14 domesticated animals. All except the llama have roots in Asia., North Africa, and Europe. Many in the are of the fertile crescent wherecivilization began.
Papa New Guinia
People have lived here longer than they have in North or South America. It has also been discovered that those in Papa New Guinia have been farming almost as long as those in the Middle East.
Why is Papa New Guinia poor then and so unequal compared to other parts of the world?
It is not because they are intellectually inferior. They are smart and resourceful.
They do not have good food sources. They are hunters and gatherers, and mostly do gathering.
They only have human power instead of animal power. They did not have animals living there that were fit for domestication.
Never developed new technology. They use the same tools all the time. Need surplus of food that way the tool makers could work on tools and not on finding food. Papa New Guinians had to spend all ther time and energy on providing food for themselves. Thus they did not have metal to tools.
It all leads back to GEOGRAPHY!
What was the secret of the Spanish conquistadors that lead to their sucess?
GUNS
They had domesticated animals unlike the Incas. For example they had horeses. The Incas had never seen these animals and when the conquistadors the fierce, strong beasts frightened them.
Had a type of gun called a hiakabus. The Incas had never seen anything like this. It was an advanced weapon compared to what they used.
STEEL
They had swords called rapiers
Techonology and ideas had spread to Spain, giving the Spainards more knowledge and resources than the Incas. The Incas were cut off from this information and technology due to where they lived.
It all leads back to GEOGRAPHY!
GERMS
The Spanish brought smallpox to the American mainland. It was the first deadly disease brought there. A slave on the Spanish ship had it and it spread to the American mainland. Small pox eventually came to the Incas and caused them to be more easily conquered.
Spainards had built up some immunity to germs after being around domesticated animals. They were as affected by the germs they could have gotten from the Incas.
Perspectives
Historical
History has shown that the the nation or race with more technological advancemnents propser more than those without. Those with advanced technology such as guns and swords, domesticated animals, and better immunity to diseases will conquer those nations and peoples without these things. The nations with good food supplies, domesticated animals, and advanced technology will also be more rich than those without these things.
Sociological
Why did Papa New Guinians not try to create and come up with new advances in technology so working would be easier? One reason is becuase they did not have animals around that were good for domestication, so they had to use their own bodies for hard labor instead of those of animals. Also, theydid not have time to invent new technology or tools. They had to spend their time finding foodto keep them alive. The area in which they lived did not provide a good food source.
Geographic
Geography determines who will be conquered, fall to disease, and have more technology than the actual people themselves. Geography allows certain people to have domesticated animals, which help to produce more food. And when people have more food they are able to take time to create new tools and technology. Being around those animals also helps people build immunity to deadly diseases.