ANTHROPOLOGY 200

**Study Guide #5**

Week Oct. 6th – 10th

Covering:

Lecture 11 & 12

Readings:

Venkatesh Preface , 1, 2, 3,

Movie:

Which Way Home

IDS

“How long since you left home? “About 20 days” “How old are you?” “I’m nine”

“We have to ride ‘The Beast.’”

African Infant Precocity Hypothesis.

Spatial skills vs. conservation

*How Natives Think*

“Big mob”

Songlines

*The Mind of Primitive Man*

Number of stones in a pile

Dead reckoning

Seaways

Star tracks

The Puluwat

“How does it feel to be Black and poor?”

“I’m not African American either. I’m a nigger”

“Fatherless World”

Robert Taylor

Black Kings

J.T.

Professor

“there would first be a screaming, hair-tearing explosion”

***Questions:***

1. What types of differences have anthropologists found in intellectual development and what variables in the environment might account for these differences?
2. How does what we now know about human cognition fit into the nature/nurture controversy?
3. What types of tasks were the Kepelle better at than the Americans? What does this demonstrate?
4. How does Gladwell’s argument concerning the connection between rice and math coincide with these variables?
5. How does Amy Chua’s descriptions of Chinese mothers tie into the nature/nurture discussion and the idea of projective systems influencing cognitive development?
6. What was Gladwin’s point in studying the Puluwat?
7. How does Gladwin’s descriptions of the navigational system of the Puluwatans provide new insight into intelligence?