

# 5 THEMES OF GEOGRAPHY



# WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY?

Geography comes from the Greek words

**GEO** (Earth) and **GRAPHY** (describing or writing about)

**Geography** is the study of the Earth and its lands, features, inhabitants, and phenomena.

# IN PLAIN ENGLISH

Geography is the study of the earth and everything on it.

# GEOGRAPHY

Geography is an interdependent discipline that brings together the physical and human dimensions of the world in the study of people, places and environments.

# 5 THEMES OF GEOGRAPHY

PLACE



Human-Environment Interaction



MOVEMENT



REGION



LOCATION



# Location



Definition: Where something can be found on the Earth

Two types of location:

- Absolute Location
- Relative Location

Absolute Location shows the exact point on the Earth's surface where something is located

- Address
- Latitude/Longitude



Relative Location explains where something is in relation to another

- Cardinal directions
- “Next to,” “Down from...”

# Location

- **Absolute location** is shown by an address. The address can be any type of address that gives an **exact** position. Here are some examples:  
A Street Address:  
1, Silly Street, Anywhere Town, Nowhere Place  
A Map Address:  
15°20' North, 20°15' West
- Both of these examples well tell you **exactly** where a place is.



# Location

- **Relative location** is shown by saying where something is in relation to somewhere or something else. Here are some examples:
- **in front of the bank**
- **east of King George Hwy**

# Location

- With these two examples you can only find what you want if you know from where you are starting. It's useful, though, for describing things. If I just told you that New York was located at  $40^{\circ}$  North,  $73^{\circ}$  West, you probably couldn't picture that in your head. If I told you that it was in the North-Eastern United States, you could probably imagine it much better.

# Place



Definition: Describes what a location looks like

Describe using:

- Physical Characteristics
- Human Characteristics

## Physical Characteristics

include anything that is nature made:

- Trees, shrubs
- Mountains, rocks



Human Characteristics include anything that is human made:

- Buildings, roads, cars
- Human culture, language, customs



# Region



Definition: An area that is defined by common characteristics (two or more places).

Two types of Regions:

- Physical Region
- Political Region

Political Regions are defined by humans:

- States, Countries
- Counties



Physical Regions are defined by nature:

- Deserts, Mountains
- Lakes, Rivers



# Region

- Regions are areas that can be grouped together by a set of things special to that region. We have countries, ruled by governments, areas speaking the same language, or having the same religion, and we have areas served by a particular service, such as a school district.



# Human Environment Interaction



Definition: How people interact with the environment

Humans interact three ways (MAD):

- Modify
- Adapt
- Depend

Modify means that humans change the environment:

- Build Houses
- Dams, Cut Trees



Adapt means humans change their life to live/survive in the environment:

- Air-conditioning, heat
- Sunglasses

Depend means humans rely on the environment:

- Fishing, crops
- Oxygen



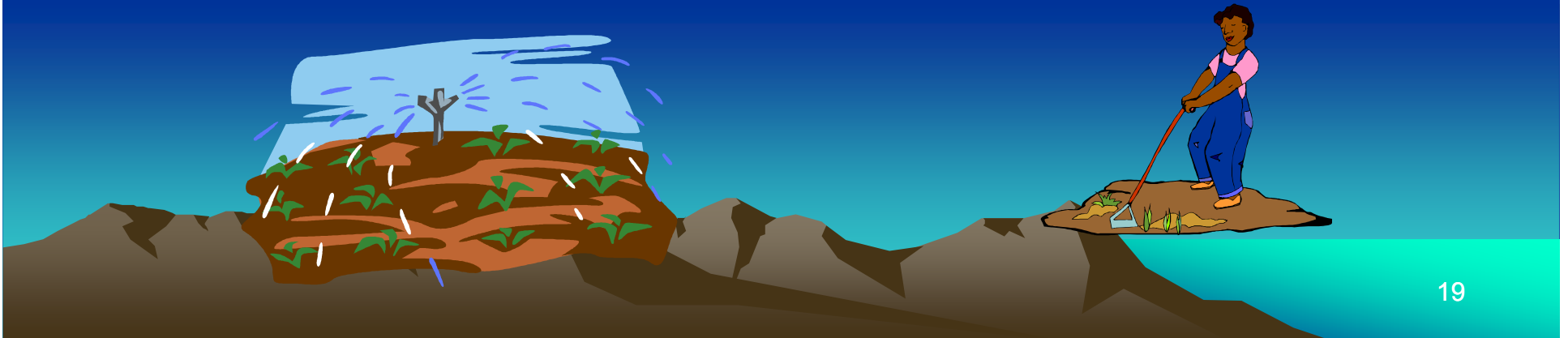
# Human-Environmental Interactions

- **How people have been changed** by the environment can be called **adaptation**. It is the way humans change to suit their environment. An example of this is people who live in very cold climates wearing well-insulated clothes to keep warm. It can also include the way people transport things, in a desert the best way to transport some things is by camel.



# Human-Environmental Interactions

- **How the environment has been changed or modification** is the way people change their environment to suit themselves. Artificially watering your lawn, if you live in a dry area is one example, or on a grander scale, creating fertile land in desert areas to grow food crops. Another good example is clearing forests to make room for growing crops.



# Human-Environmental Interactions

- **Depending** on the environment is when people depend on their environment for something.  
Examples of this are using trees for firewood, or coal to warm us in winter, rivers to transport goods and natural resources like oil and coal, to sell or exchange for other needed items that are not available.



# Movement



Definition: How people, goods, and ideas move between places:  
Spatial Interaction

## Movement of Goods:

- Truck, ship,
- Plane, train



## Movement of People:

- Bus, car
- Walking, bike



## Movement of Ideas:

- Internet, e-mail
- Phone, letters



# MOVEMENT

- **Movement** includes the movement of people, things, such as goods, as well as communications (the movement of ideas) for example: internet, telephone.
- We can describe the type of communications a place has and the main forms of transportation, as well as what goods are exported and imported.



# Remembering the 5 themes

- If you can't remembering what they are just ask MR. HELP!!!
  - *M* – Movement
  - *R* – Regions
  - *HE* – Human Environment interaction
  - *L* – Location
  - *P* – Place

# Quiz About The Five Themes of Geography

Click the bell to the left of the correct answer.  
Applause will sound if the answer is correct.  
A gong will sound if the answer is incorrect.

A key to the quiz follows the last slide.  
You may continue answering each question until  
the correct answer is found.



## Question 1

Which of the following is **NOT** a geography theme?



A. movement



B. human-environmental  
interaction



C. region



D. people

## Question 2

Which of the following is an example of Human-Environmental Interaction?



A. getting the mail



B. watching TV



C. playing Gameboy



D. Rainforest Clearing

### Question 3

Which of the following helped create the 5 Themes of Geography?



A. Geographica  
Institute



B. National Geographic  
Society



C. National Council for  
Social Studies



D. Social Studies  
Teachers of America

## Question 4

Which of the following is an example of Place?



A. Deep South



B. McDonalds



C. Dodge County  
Middle School



D. Skating rink

## Question 5

Which of the following is NOT an example of Location?



A. Springfield,  
Missouri



B. Dodge County Middle School  
1103 Herman Ave  
Eastman, GA 31023



C. Georgia



D. the hills

## Question 6

Which of the following is an example of region?



A. Georgia



B. South America



C. United States



D. The Midwest

## Question 7

What is the name of a person who studies the earth and everything on it?



A. Photographer



B. Cartographer



C. Geographer



D. Mapographer

# Key

- 1) D
- 2) D
- 3) B
- 4) A
- 5) B
- 6) D
- 7) C