

## 5 Themes of Geography Reading Notes

Geography is the study of Earth and the ways humans interact with Earth

Geographers study

1. Land
2. water
3. plants (vegetation)
4. animals
5. people

To remember 5 Themes ASK...

MR. HELP

The 5 themes are...

1. Location - Geographers begin to study a place by finding where it is, or its location.

- a. absolute location - is the exact position on Earth. EX Lansing, MI is 42.7° N 84.6° W  
Bryant is at 460 N. Vernon
- b. relative location - explains where a place is by describing places near it. → Bryant is across the street from Subway.

2. Place - Geographers study the physical and human features of a location.

- a. This includes a location's Natural (Physical) and Human features.
  - To describe physical features, you might say that the climate is hot or cold or that the land is hilly. Ex. Mtns, valleys, plains, bodies of water, climate, vegetation.
  - To describe human features, you might discuss how many people live there, what types of work they do, or what they do for fun. Man-made features, bridges, homes, roads,

3. Human Environment Interaction - Geographers study how people affect or shape physical characteristics of their natural surroundings and how does their surroundings (environment) affect them?

- a. How do people adjust to and change their environment? How does the environment adjust to and change the people?

Modify - cut down trees, man-made lakes, mine for minerals/oil

Adapt - dress for seasons, AC, heaters

Depend - water provides food sources

4. Movement - Helps explain how people, goods, and ideas get from one place to another.

- a. Explains how Transportation, migration, communication + trade move people, goods, ideas
- b. Helps geographers understand cultural changes.

5. Region - Geographers compare the climate, land, population, or history of one place to another.

- a. A region has a unifying characteristic, like language, religion, climate, physical features
- b. On maps, geographers use color and shape or special symbols to show regions.