

Five Themes of Geography

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Themes of geography, there's got to be five,
Location and then place, no lie.
Human-environment interaction, no surprise,
We need movement and region, and now we've arrived...

First theme, where is it? That's location,
Location's fascinating when you're planning your vacation.
Absolute location, that's exact,
Using longitude and latitude to know where it's at
On the map, measured in degrees, with no thermostat.
But location can be relative too, yeah in fact,
That's when you relate the location to a person or place.
Like, find the Bahamas southeast of the States.
Number two is place, ask the question, "What is it like?"
What makes this place different from the other places? All right,
Well, we might want to look at physical characteristics,
The natural environment, yeah, I'll get specific.
Talking 'bout climate could mean sandstorms, or snow, go keep your hands warm.
Plus the flora and fauna, that's plants and beasts, plus geologic landforms,
I did that sort of fast, rewind it if you missed it.
The other part of place is looking at human characteristics,
What are the people like? Nah, I don't mean are they nice.
What's their population density and religion like?
What's their language? What's their clothing? What food is on their plate?
In the US we eat pancakes, but in France they have those crepes.

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At theme three, "What's that son?" The latest hottest fashion,

Is to study human-environment interaction.
How do we depend on our environment? Do you
Know Egyptian farmers used the Nile flood to grow food?
How do we modify our environment? Oh man,
We build irrigation ditches, landfills and dams.
How do we adapt to our environment? You know,
We build buildings to keep the heat in when it gets cold.
Theme four is movement—we study how and why
People move, like to escape persecution or crime.
Or for new opportunities, like the Gold Rush,
You could hitch your wagon or be walking through the cold slush.
It's not just people that move, if we're staying honest,
Certainly merchants are trading all the latest hottest products.
Ideas spread by communication and technologies,
Cultures move with languages and philosophies.
We gotta be ready for theme five, it's region,
An area with unifying features for some reason.
Now let's run through some regions, there are many types,
“How and why are places similar?” It could be like,
A political region, like a country or state.
Or a physical region, could be defined by landforms like a lake,
A cultural region might have a common tongue.
Lots of features, regions can be based off more than one, one!