

Reference Sheet

Overview of The Five Themes of Geography

1. **Location:** Where is it?
 - A. **Absolute** location: the point where 2 lines intersect (latitude & longitude, street address)
 - B. **Relative** location: where it is in relation to something else (north of, across from, etc.)
2. **Place:** What's it like there?
 - A. **Physical** characteristics (landforms, bodies of water, climate, soil, natural vegetation, animal life)
 - B. **Human** characteristics (population density, languages, religion, culture, political systems)
3. **Human/Environment Interaction:** What is the relationship between humans and their environment?
 - A. How humans **depend** on the environment (basic needs of food, shelter, clothing)
 - B. How humans **modify** the environment (construct dams, plow & irrigate fields, dig mines, build houses)
 - C. How humans **adapt** to the environment (air conditioning in the Southwest)
4. **Movement:** How and why are places connected with one another?
 - A. **Transportation** and **communication** systems (highways, rivers, air & ship routes, phone, internet)
 - B. **People** (ideas, migration)
 - C. **Physical Systems** (wind, tsunamis, erosion)
5. **Regions:** How and why is one area similar to, or different from, another area?
 - A. **Physical** characteristics: climate, landforms (the desert Southwest, the peaks and valleys of the Rocky Mountains)
 - B. **Human** characteristics: economic & political systems, social & cultural concerns (Quebec, the South, Scandinavia)

Regions can also be broken into the following:

Formal: These are designated by official boundaries, such as cities, states, counties, and countries. For the most part, they are clearly indicated and publicly known.

Functional: These are defined by their connections. For example, the newspaper circulation area for a major city area is the functional region of that newspaper/newspaper company.

Vernacular: These include perceived regions, such as "The South," "The Midwest," or "The Middle East." They have no formal boundaries but are understood through a person's mental map of the world.

Surviving the Five Themes Project Expectations

1. Groups will watch another episode (or more to find one that appeals to the group) of Survivorman and create a report.
2. The report must include a map of the area where the survival story takes place.
3. The report can take several forms: slideshow, essay, poster, pamphlet, art form, diary, newspaper article, skit, video, interview, etc.
4. Everyone in the group must work together. First, they will watch the video and independently write down their ideas of how to apply the 5 Themes to this episode. Then the group will compare responses and select the best responses.
5. Groups must answer the following 12 questions in whatever form of report they select:

12 Questions/12 Answers

1. Based on the Survivorman episode your group selected, in what part of the world will you be surviving? You must create a map of the area.
2. What is the ABSOLUTE LOCATION (latitude and longitude) of where you'll be surviving?
3. What is the RELATIVE LOCATION?
4. What is the FORMAL REGION of where you will be surviving?
5. What is the FUNCTIONAL REGION?
6. What is the VERNACULAR REGION?
7. What are 2-3 PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS of the Place where you will be surviving?
8. What are 2-3 HUMAN CHARACTERISTICS of the Place where you will be surviving?
9. Regarding Human-Environment Interaction, how did the environment impact you?
10. Regarding Human-Environment Interaction, how do you plan to alter your environment to survive for a week?
11. How and why will YOU MOVE throughout this week of survival? Where will you seek to move to survive?
12. If you had the choice to bring any mode of transportation with you to survive in this area, what would it be and why?

Scoring Guide

Requirement	Points Possible	Points Earned	Comments
Group Participation	20		
Map of Survival Area	12		
Answered 12 Questions	48		
Report	30		
Total	100		