5 Themes of Geography

Name_____

Place

Human Environment Interaction

Location

Absolute

Relative

Movement

Region

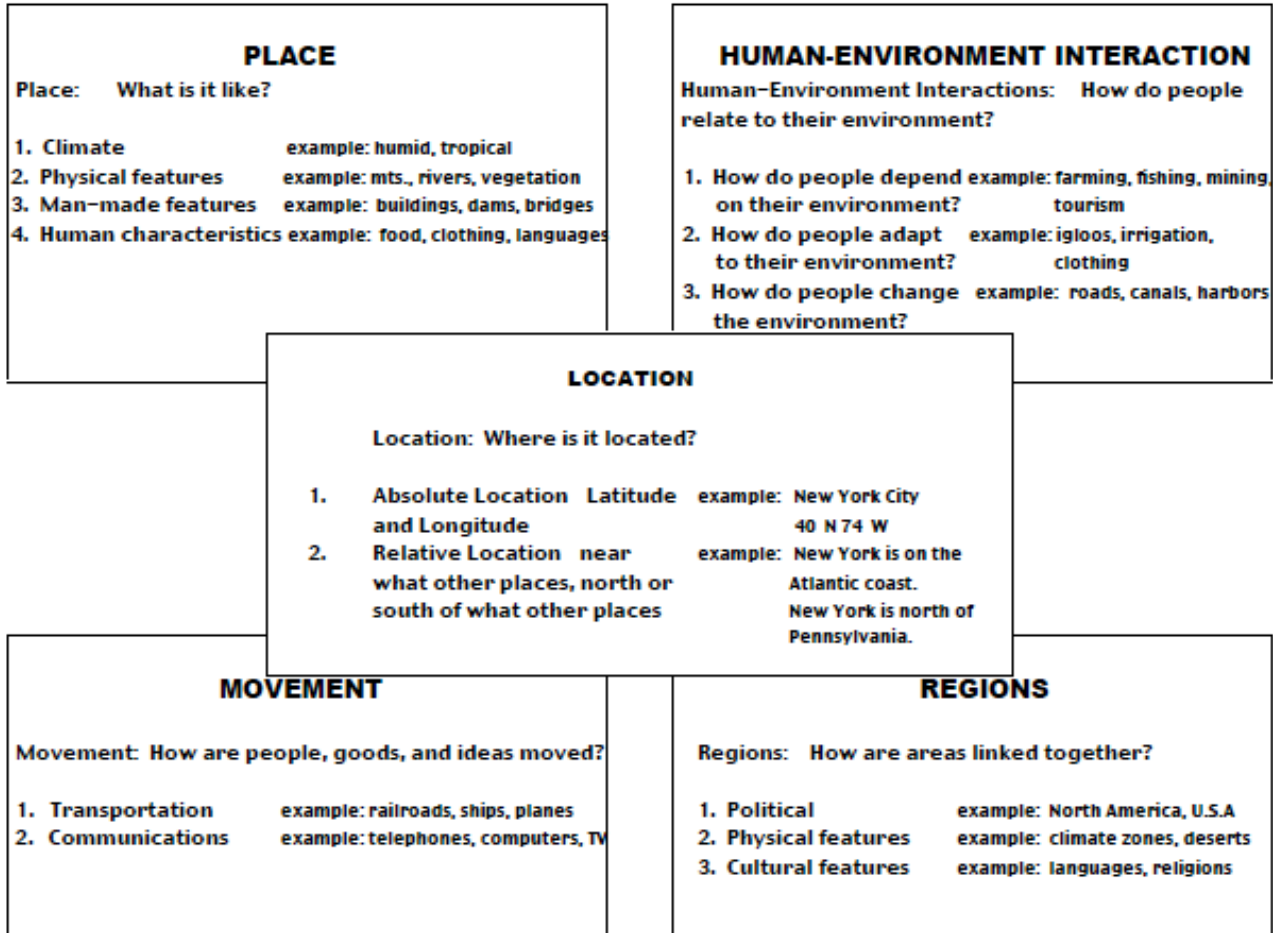Political

Physical

Cultural

ARIZONA
GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE

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, telephone lines)
    B. **People** (ideas, migration)
    C. **Physical Systems** (wind, tsunami, 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)

Five Themes of Geography graphic organizer Answer Key

5 Themes of Geography

PLACE

Place: What is it like?

1. Climate   example: humid, tropical
2. Physical features   example: mts., rivers, vegetation
3. Man-made features   example: buildings, dams, bridges
4. Human characteristics example: food, clothing, languages

HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

Human-Environment Interactions: How do people relate to their environment?

1. How do people depend example: farming, fishing, mining, on their environment?   tourism
2. How do people adapt   example: igloos, irrigation, to their environment?   clothing
3. How do people change example: roads, canals, harbors the environment?

LOCATION

Location: Where is it located?

1.   Absolute Location Latitude   example: New York City
       and Longitude   40 N 74 W
2.   Relative Location   near   example: New York is on the
       what other places, north or   Atlantic coast.
       south of what other places   New York is north of
                                             Pennsylvania.

MOVEMENT

Movement: How are people, goods, and ideas moved?

1. Transportation   example: railroads, ships, planes
2. Communications   example: telephones, computers, TV

REGIONS

Regions: How are areas linked together?

1. Political   example: North America, U.S.A
2. Physical features   example: climate zones, deserts
3. Cultural features   example: languages, religions

ARIZONA
GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE

5 Themes Quiz   Name_____

Use each theme only 2 times.
L = location, P = place, M = movement, R = region, and HEI = human/environment interaction

_____1. My house is near the shopping mall.

_____2. Fireworks were first used in China.

_____3. Geothermal energy (heat from the Earth) to heat homes is a very good idea.

_____4. The Sonoran Desert has very unusual plants and animals.

_____5. Trade between the US. and China is booming.

_____6. The White House is located at 1600 W. Pennsylvania Ave.

_____7. The Midwest is known for growing grains.

_____8. The teacher lectured about the Revolutionary War.

_____9. The mining of copper leaves large holes in the Earth.

_____10. Westminster Abbey is a large church in England.

ARIZONA
GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE

5 Themes Quiz   **Answer Key**
Use each theme only 2 times.
L = location, P = place, M = movement, R = region, and HEI = human/environment interaction

_____L_____1. My house is near the shopping mall. (Relative)

_____P_____2. Fireworks were first used in China.

____HEI_____3. Geothermal energy (heat from the Earth) to heat homes is a very good idea.

_____R_____4. The Sonoran Desert has very unusual plants and animals.

_____M_____5. Trade between the US. and China is booming.

_____L_____6. The White House is located at 1600 W. Pennsylvania Ave. (Absolute)

_____R_____7. The Midwest is known for growing grains.

_____M_____8. The teacher lectured about the Revolutionary War.

_____HEI_____9. The mining of copper leaves large holes in the Earth.

_____P_____10. Westminster Abbey is a large church in England.

Guidelines for Postcard Assignment Name_____

You will be creating a set of postcards that tell about one state, place or region. The following is an example using Arizona.

1. On one side of the index card, Identify the theme and draw appropriate pictures.
Card 1 Place (Arizona): drawing of the Grand Canyon or a cactus
Card 2 Location: map of Arizona showing nearby states or latitude and longitude
Card 3 Region: map of the Southwest or drawing of the Sonoran Desert
Card 4 Human Environment Interaction: drawing of people water skiing or an open pit mine
Card 5 Movement: drawing of immigrants coming to Arizona or map of major highways

2. On the other side of each card, write about the pictures and the information you learned. You should also include the person who is to receive the card and his/her address. All of your group should have the same name and address.
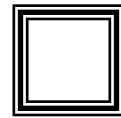
Dear Ben,
This is my favorite part of Arizona.
It is the Sonoran Desert. Look at all
Of the pretty flowers and cacti. See
You soon.
Gale

Ben Perez
1234 N. Pima Street
Yuma, Arizona 85364

Scoring Guide
5 Cards neatly done (10 pts)
5 Appropriate pictures (10 pts)
Sentences are appropriate for the pictures (20 pts)
Postcard is addressed appropriately (5 pts)
Worked well on the assignment (5 pts) Total _____50 Pts

ARIZONA
GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE

Identifying Photos—Practice on the 5 Themes of Geography

Name(s)_____

Visual #_____
Theme_____
Explanation_____
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Visual #_____
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