

The Five Themes of Geography

1. Location: Where is it?

A. Absolute location: the point where 2 lines intersect (latitude & longitude, streets, addresses)



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, language patterns, 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: food, shelter, clothing)



B. How humans modify the environment

(construct dams, plow & irrigate fields, dig mines, build houses, schools, and shopping centers)



C. How humans adapt to



the environment (air conditioning in the southwestern U.S.)



Name:

Date:



4. Movement: How and why are places connected with one another?



A. Transportation and communications systems: highways, rivers, air & ship



B. People (ideas, food, language)



C. Physical Systems (wind, rain, weather)

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)



Name •

Date •

