

# I Geography: It's Nature and Perspectives

Enduring Understandings	Learning Objectives	Essential Knowledge
A. Geography, as a field of inquiry, looks at the world from a <b>spatial perspective</b>	Explain the importance of geography as a <b>field of study</b>	Geographic information provides context for understanding <b>spatial</b> relationships and human-environment interaction
B. Geography offers a set of concepts, skills, and tools that facilitate critical thinking and problem solving	Explain major <b>geographical</b> concepts underlying the <b>geographic perspective</b>	Geographical concepts include <b>location, place, scale, space, pattern, nature and society, networks, flows, regionalization and globalization</b>
	Use <b>landscape</b> analysis to examine the human organization of <b>space</b>	Landscape analysis (e.g. field observations, photographic interpretations) provides a context for understanding the <b>location of people, places, regions, and events; human-environment relationships</b> ; and interconnections between and among places and regions
C. Geographical skills provide a foundations for analyzing world <b>patterns and processes</b>	Use <b>spatial thinking</b> to analyze the human organization of space	People apply <b>spatial</b> concepts to interpret and understand population and migration, cultural patterns and processes; political organization of space, agriculture, food production, and rural land use; industrialization and economic development; and cities and urban land use
	Use and interpret <b>maps</b>	Maps are used to represent and identify <b>spatial patterns</b> and processes at different <b>scales</b>
		Types of maps include <b>reference maps (e.g. physical and political maps) and thematic maps (e.g. choropleth, dot, graduated symbol, isoline, cartogram)</b>
		All map <b>projections</b> (e.g. Mercator, polar) inevitably <b>distort</b> spatial relationships (e.g. shape, area, distance, and direction)
	Apply mathematical formulas and graphs to interpret geographic concepts	Mathematical formulas and graphs are used to analyze rates of <b>natural increase</b> in population, population <b>doubling time</b> , <b>rank-size rule</b> for cities, and <b>distance-decay</b> functions
	Use and interpret geographic models	Geographers use models and generalizations to think systematically about topics such as land use (e.g. von <b>Thünen model</b> , <b>Latin American city model</b> ), industrial location (e.g. <b>Weber</b> model) and the distribution of settlements (e.g. <b>Christaller's</b> central place theory)
	Use concepts such as <b>space, place, and region</b> to examine geographic issues	Geographic issues include problems related to <b>human-environment interactions</b> (e.g. sustainable agriculture); conflict and cooperation among countries (e.g. <b>European Union</b> ); and planning and public-policy decision making (e.g. <b>pronatalist</b> policies)
	Interpret <b>patterns</b> and processes at different <b>scales</b>	<b>Patterns</b> and processes at different <b>scales</b> reveal variations in and different interpretations of data (e.g. <b>age-sex pyramids</b> , population <b>density</b> )
	Define <b>regions</b> as a concept, identify <b>world regions</b> , and understand <b>regionalization</b> processes	<b>Regions</b> are defined on the basis of one or more unifying characteristics (e.g. corn belt) or on patterns of activity (e.g. <b>hinterlands</b> of ports)
		Types of regions include <b>formal, functional, and perceptual</b>
		<b>World regions</b> are defined for this course by the maps in the course curriculum section of the AP Human Geography Course Description
		<b>World regions</b> may overlap (e.g. Southeast Asia and Asia) and often have transitional boundaries (e.g. North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa)

	Explain and evaluate the <b>regionalization</b> process	Regional thinking is applied a local, national, and global <b>scales</b>
		<b>Regionalism</b> refers to a group's perceived identification with a particular region at any <b>scale</b>
	Analyze changing interconnections among places	<b>Interconnections</b> among places include exchanges of natural resources, agricultural commodities, finished products, services, people, information, money, and pollutants
D. <b>Geospatial technologies</b> increase the capability for gathering and analyzing geographic information with applications to everyday life	Use and interpret <b>geospatial</b> data	<b>Geospatial</b> technologies include <b>geographic information systems (GIS)</b> , satellite navigation systems (e.g. <b>global positioning system</b> ), <b>remote sensing</b> , and online mapping and visualization
		<b>Geospatial data</b> (e.g. census data, satellite imagery) is uses at all <b>scales</b> for personal (e.g. navigation), business (e.g. marketing), and governmental (e.g. environmental planning) purposes
E. <b>Field experiences</b> continue to be important means of gathering geographic information and data	Use <b>quantitative</b> and <b>qualitative</b> geographic data	<b>Data</b> may be gathered in the field by organizations (e.g. <b>census data</b> ) or by individuals (e.g. <b>interviews, surveys, photography, informal observations</b> )
		<b>Quantitative</b> and <b>qualitative</b> geographic data are used in economic, environmental, political and social decision making

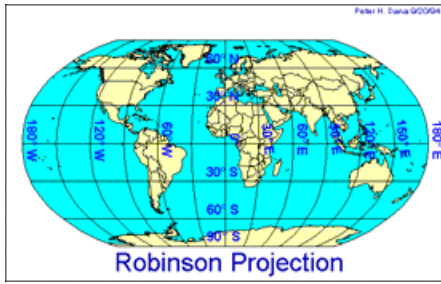
From <<https://sites.google.com/a/lphs.org/lphumangeo/unit-i--geography-it-s-nature-and-perspectives>>

# Definitions

Tuesday, May 2, 2017 8:17 AM

It's all about Spatial Perspective and Scale!!!

human geography	a division of geography, spatial analysis of human population, cultures, activities, and landscapes
globalization	expansion of economic, political, and cultural processes to the point that they are global in scope, effect all levels
fieldwork	study of phenomena by visiting places and observing how people interact and thereby change those places
physical geography	the branch of geography that studies structures, processes, and location of the Earth's natural phenomena (climate, soil, plants, animals, topography)
spatial	pertaining to space on the Earth's surface,
spatial distribution	physical location of geographic features across space
medical geography	study of health and disease from a geographic context and perspective
pandemics	worldwide outbreak of disease
epidemic	disease particular to a locality or region
spatial perspective	observing variations in geographic phenoms across space
meridians	lines of longitude
parallels	lines of latitude
Azimuthal Projection, 	shows poles, used by pilots
Mercator Projection, 	used for ship navigation, right diections, wrong land mass areas
Fuller Projection, 	right size and shape of land, distorted compass
Robinson Projection,	used by Nat Geo, nothing is accurate but all errors are minimized



cartogram,



thematic map where the unit is shown larger due to importance than actual size

choropleth map

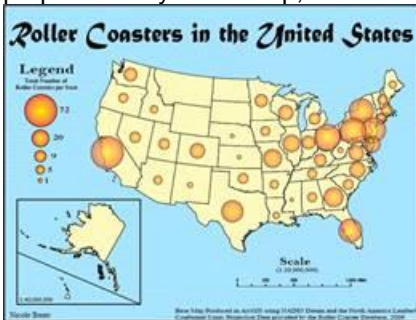
thematic map that uses colors of tones or such to represent a particular data

dot map,



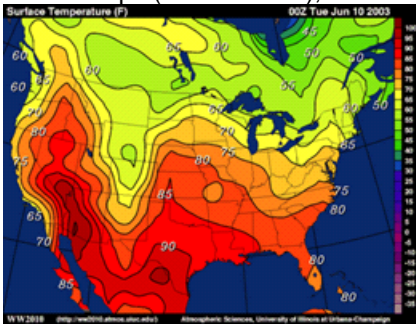
shows a thematic map with locations marked of a particular idea or occurrence

proportional symbols map,



thematic map where size of symbols denote importance or size of the given attribute

isoline maps (contour lines),



has lines used to show areas that are relatively equal

reference maps

used to navigate from one place to another

political maps

shows borders and capitals

Times Zones

change 1 hour per 15 degrees

small scale maps

show large area, little detail

large scale maps

show small area in great detail

spatial perspective

observing variations in geographic phenomena across space

location theory

logical attempt to explain the location & pattern of an economic activity and

	how producing areas are related
sense of place	state of mind derived from the infusion of a place with meaning and emotion from memories
perceptions of place	belief or understanding about a place from books, movies, stories, or pictures
spatial interaction	degree of flow of people, ideas, and goods among places
distance	measurement of the physical space between 2 places
accessibility	degree of ease with which it is possible to reach a location from elsewhere, varies place to place, can be measured
connectivity	connectedness of a node in the world economy to other nodes
landscape	overall appearance of an area, usually naturally and human induced
cultural landscape	visible imprint of human activity and culture on the landscape, sequentially imprinted
sequent occupance	successive societies leave their cultural imprint on a place, each adding to the cumulative cultural landscape
cartography	science of map making
reference maps	map that shows absolute location of a place and geographic features
thematic maps	maps that tell stories, usually one attribute or movement
absolute location	position on earth's surface, usually by latitude and longitude
Global Positioning system	system for determining the absolute location of places or features, often with satellites
geocaching	a hunt for a cache, the GPS coordinates which are placed on the internet by other geocachers
relative location	regional position of a place (situation), relative to other places
mental map	image or picture based on perceptions and impressions
activity spaces	space in which one's daily activities take place
remote sensing	use of planes or satellites to collect data or information from places physically distant
geographic information systems	collection of pc software and hardware that allows spatial data to be collected, recorded, stored, and utilized
rescale	change the scale or area of study to gain support
formal region	region that has one or more shared physical or cultural traits
functional region	region defined by a set of activities or interactions
perceptual region	region that exists as an idea and not based on a physical entity
culture	sum of knowledge, attitudes, and habitual behaviors shared amongst a group
culture trait	an element of a culture
culture complex	set of cultural traits
cultural hearth	origin of a culture
independent invention	The independent development of a cultural feature in different societies.
cultural diffusion	expansion and adoption of a cultural element
time-distance decay	declining acceptance of an idea the farther it is from the hearth
cultural barriers	attitude that refuses the adoption of another culture's traits
expansion diffusion	spread of innovation or idea through a population, increased the numbers involved
contagious diffusion	spread by immediate and direct contact person to person
hierarchical diffusion	idea that passes from the hearth to the most connected nodes (people or places)
stimulus diffusion	an accepted cultural trait with adaptations
relocation diffusion	trait carried by people who move from one location to another
isotherms	lines connecting similar values like temperature or elevations on a topographic map

possibilism	environment influences culture but man is the final decision maker
cultural ecology	interactions and relationships between a culture and its' environment
environmental determinism	environment determines culture and development
political ecology	study of nature and society relationships and reflects as a result of political and socioeconomic contexts

# 1. Five Themes of Geography

## Location

- a. absolute location - gives precise location
- b. relative location - gives location based on position to other places

### SITE VS SITUATION

SITE - physical attributes of a place including absolute location, spatial character, and internal physical setting

SITUATION - relative location, position based on external objects

### Relative vs. Absolute Location:

#### Relative Location

- Relative location: locations described directions, time, landmarks or distance.
- Example:
  - Tennessee is west of North Carolina



#### Absolute Location

- Absolute location: gives a specific form of location.
- Example:
  - The White House is located at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Washington D.C. 20500



## 2. Human - Environment Interactions

- a. the effect humans have on the environment  
(ex. dams, mining, Greenhouse Effect, man made lakes and canals, etc).

### AND

- b. the impact that the environment has on humans  
(ex. floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, landslides, etc.)





### 3. Region

Regions are areas that share a distinct trait. Geographers use them to compare and contrast places. There is no real one set of qualifiers to decide what is or is not a region. For example, many people use the term "Middle East". When we discuss Middle East we may not agree on what is included. Should we count Egypt which is technically part of Northern Africa? What about Pakistan which shares some traits with nearby countries by certainly not all?

- a. Regional Geography - study of regions (ex. Southern US, New England, etc)
- b. Functional Regions - political, social, or economic relationships create regions (ex. DMV - DC, VA, MD•)
- c. Formal Regions - share a cultural or physical trait (ex. Appalachians, Megalopolis)



one example of regions

### 4. Place

- a. Sense of Place - the meaning, emotion, or attachment one gives to a place from memories and experiences ex. home
- b. Perceptions of Place - the way a place is perceived due to exposure from media (books, movies, etc)



What makes you feel like you are "home"?



What have movies, books, and pictures made you think of when you hear the word "France"?

### 5. Movement

- a. Movement deals with the mobility of goods, ideas, and people.

Spatial interaction depends on the distance between places, the accessibility (degree of difficulty to move between the places), and connectivity (how good the communication between the places is).

Bigger urban areas have more ability to attract people to it.

People move based on reasons to leave a place (push factors) and reasons to seek the new place (pull factors).

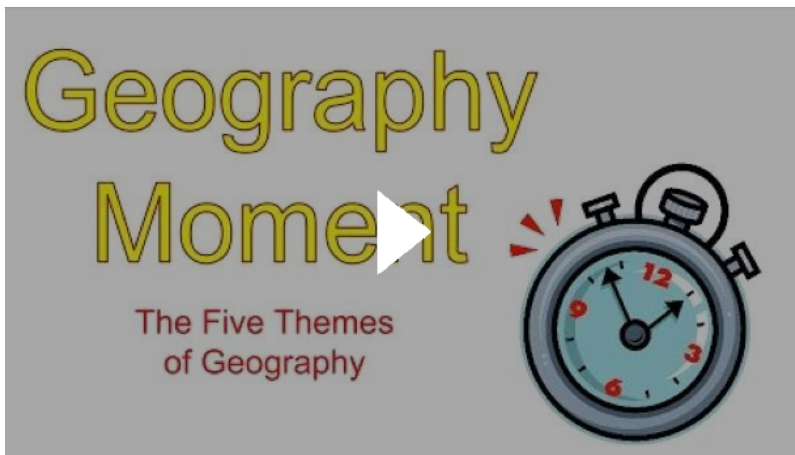
There are many things that can encourage or derail movement (see Unit on Population and Migration).





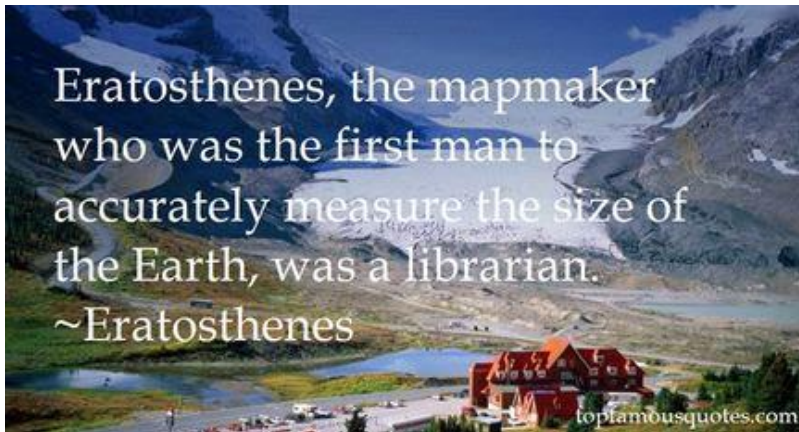
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# Important People

Tuesday, May 2, 2017 8:34 AM



Eratosthenes - early cartographer, coined the term geography, made a nearly accurate measurement of the Earth's Circumference

[VIDEO ON ERATOSTHENES](#)

Ptolemy - early cartography, used a grid system

George Perkins Marsh - wrote about how human actions change or affect physical/natural systems

Carl Sauer- cultural landscape is the fundamental unit of geographical analysis, this is from human interaction with physical environment, ALL landscape is effected by humans

W.D. Pattison -geography comes from 4 traditions: earth science, culture-environment, locations, and area-analysis.

## Four Traditions of Geography – W.D. Pattison, 1964



Aug-01 HG, Chapter 1 6



## [AP Human Unit 1 Crash Course Mona McElroy 3B Part 1](#)

moneha140



From <<http://newellta.weebly.com/geography-people-and-maps.html>>

# Maps

Tuesday, May 2, 2017 8:37 AM

## Map Parts

absolute location - exact position on a map grid system

longitude/meridians- lines to the east or west of the Prime Meridian, run vertically

latitude/parallels - lines to the north or south of the Equator, (go horizontally)

Prime Meridian-0 degree line of longitude through Greenwich, England

International Date Line -180 degree line of longitude, starts a new day

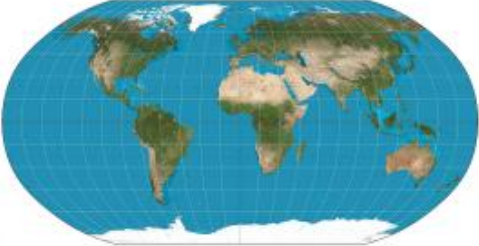

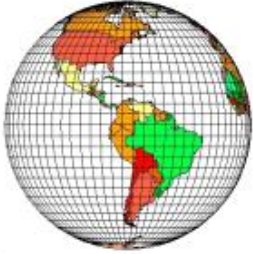



Equator - 0 degree line of latitude, separates northern and southern hemisphere

coordinate system - grid (longitude and latitude) used to find absolute location

## Common Map Projections

<b>Projection Type</b>	<b>What is distorted</b>	<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<b>Robinson (Oval Map)</b>	Poles are shrunken	Little distortion	Hard to see poles
<b>Mercator (Cylindric)</b>	Areas near poles stretched	Shows true direction, used by ships	Areas near poles are bigger than reality
<b>Azimuthal (Planar)</b>	Gets bigger away from poles	Used by airline pilots	You can only see one hemisphere at a time
<b>Goode's Homolosine</b>	Interrupts oceans	Stresses land masses	Water paths distorted
<b>Mollweide equal area</b>	Shape of land/water	True size land/water	Shape distorted
<b>Gall-Peters</b>	Elongates countries	Accurate proportions for S Hemisphere	Really long countries esp. near equator



<b>Robinson</b>	<b>Mercator</b>
	
<b>Azimuthal</b>	<b>Goode's Homolosine</b>
	
<b>Molleweide equal area</b>	<b>Gall-Peters</b>
	

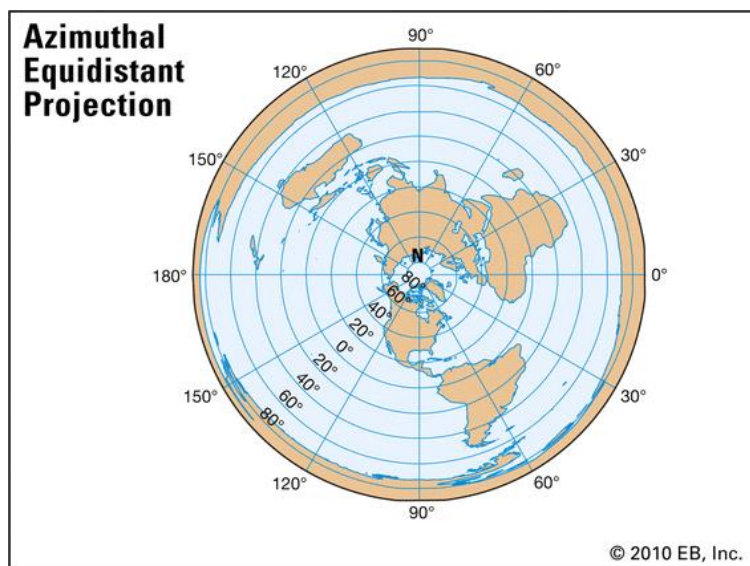
Maps Types to know!

Thematic Maps - type of map that attempts to display one or more

cartography - the science of making maps

cognitive/mental map - map drawn from one's memories and experiences

location charts - map, chart, graph, etc that show statistics of a particular place

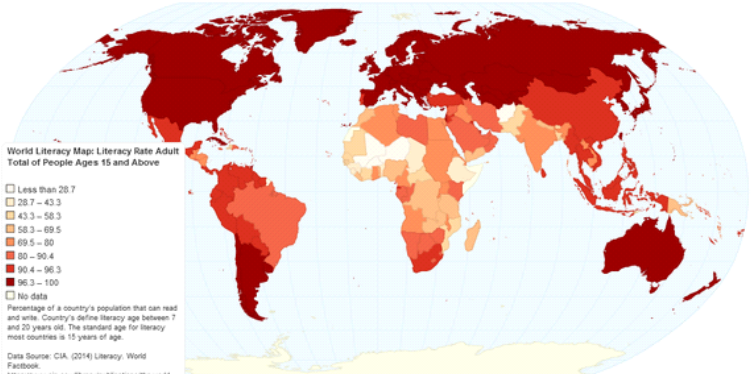


Azimuthal Projection - flat constructed map of a particular area (often poles) with correct direction and evident circles for

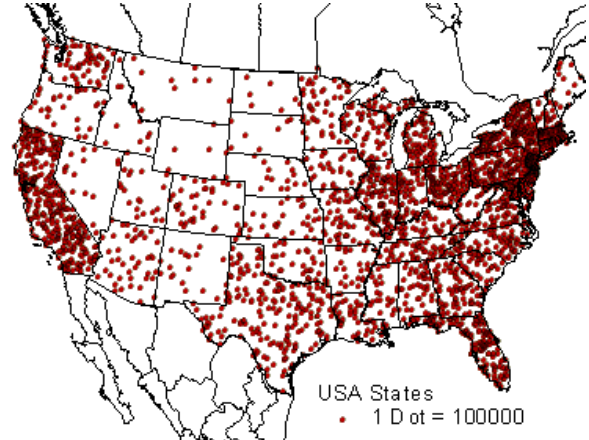
scales



cartograms - thematic map where the unit is shown larger due to importance than actual size

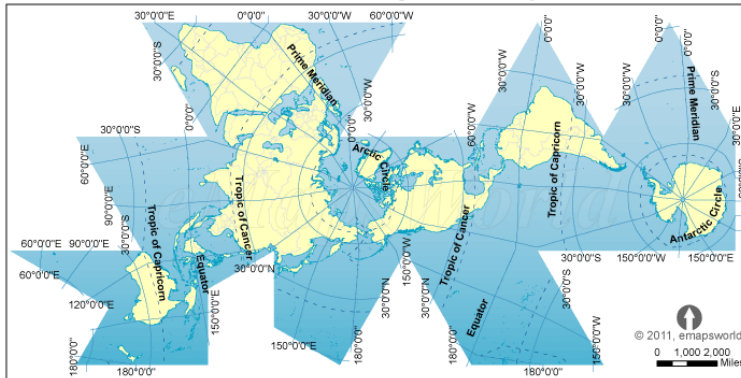


choropleth map - thematic map that uses colors of tones or such to represent a particular data

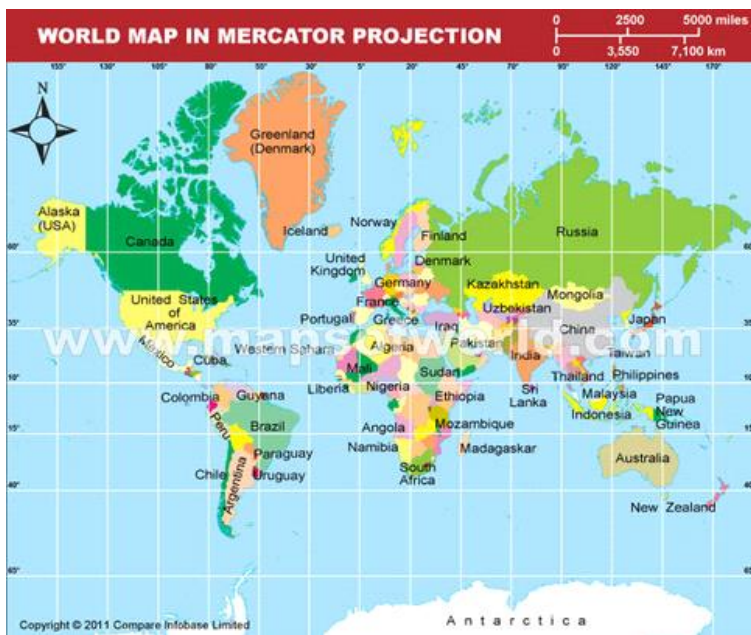


dot maps - shows a thematic map with locations marked of a particular idea or occurrence

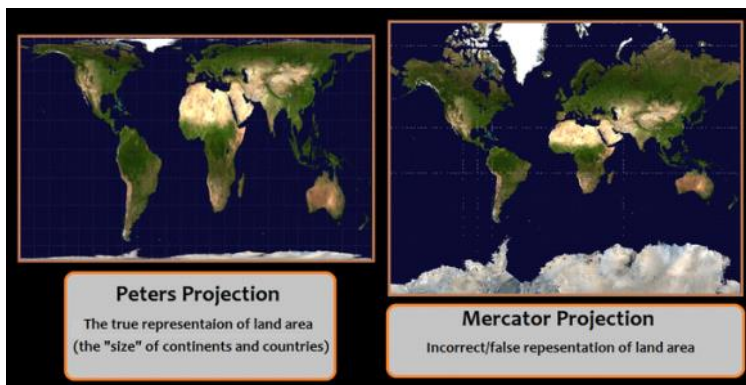
### World Fuller Projection Map



Fuller Projection - map where all land is show at accurate size and scale to one another but cardinal directions have no meaning (cardinal directions are east, west, north, south)

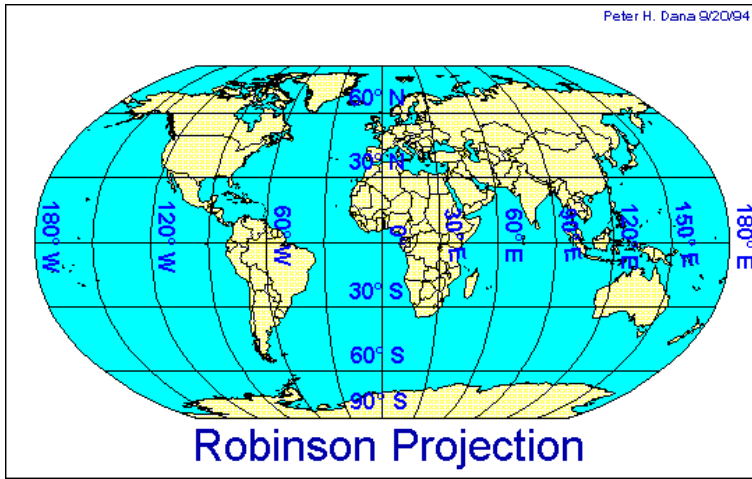


Mercator projection - cylindrical map projection, maintains true direction but distortion increases nearer to the poles

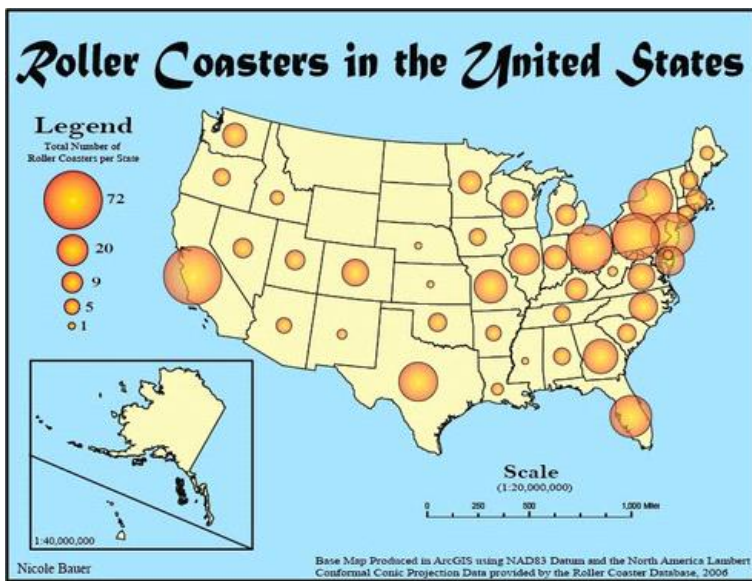


Peters Projection - map centers on Africa, attempts to give true area to all land masses

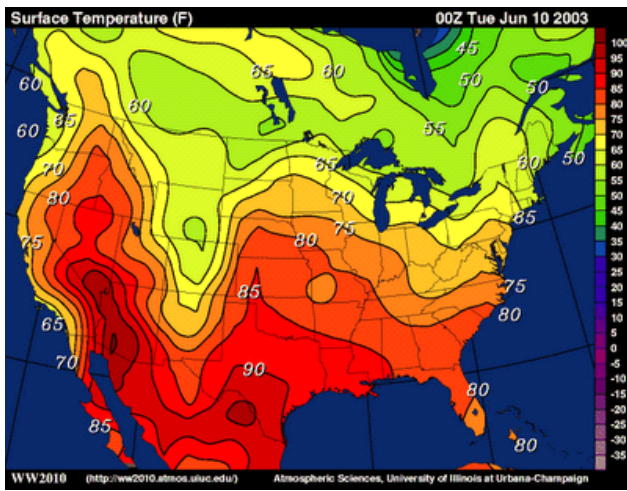




Robinson Projection - map projection that is not accurate to any one proportion or size, etc but minimizes as errors on all fronts as much as possible



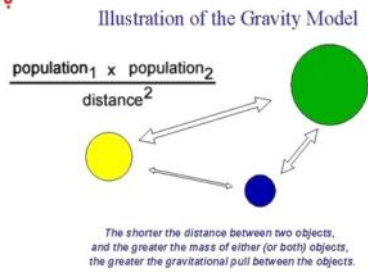
Proportional Symbols Map - thematic map where size of symbols denote importance or size of the given attribute



Isoline maps - has lines used to show areas that are relatively equal

# The Gravity Model

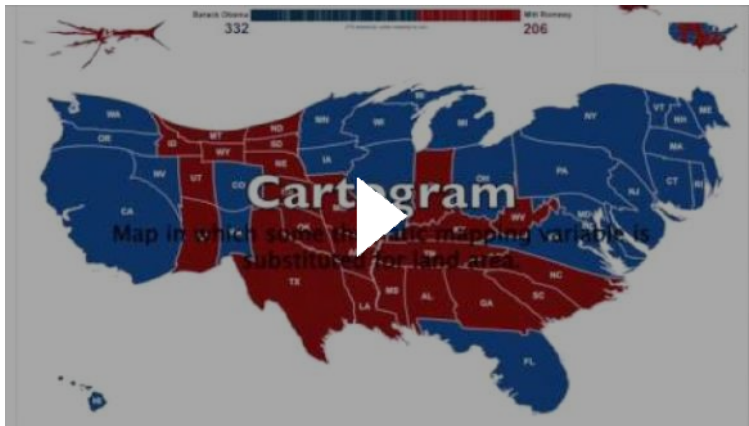
- This model is limited in that the only resistance to migration is distance. **Is this relevant in present society?**



Newton's model of gravity is used to explain how much interaction there is in cities using size (mass) and distance (pull)

## [AP Human Geography Maps and Projections](#)

Maxwell Johnson



## [25 Maps That Will Change The Way You See The World](#)

list25



## [Maps That Prove You Don't Really Know Earth](#)



[Gall-Peters Projection](#)

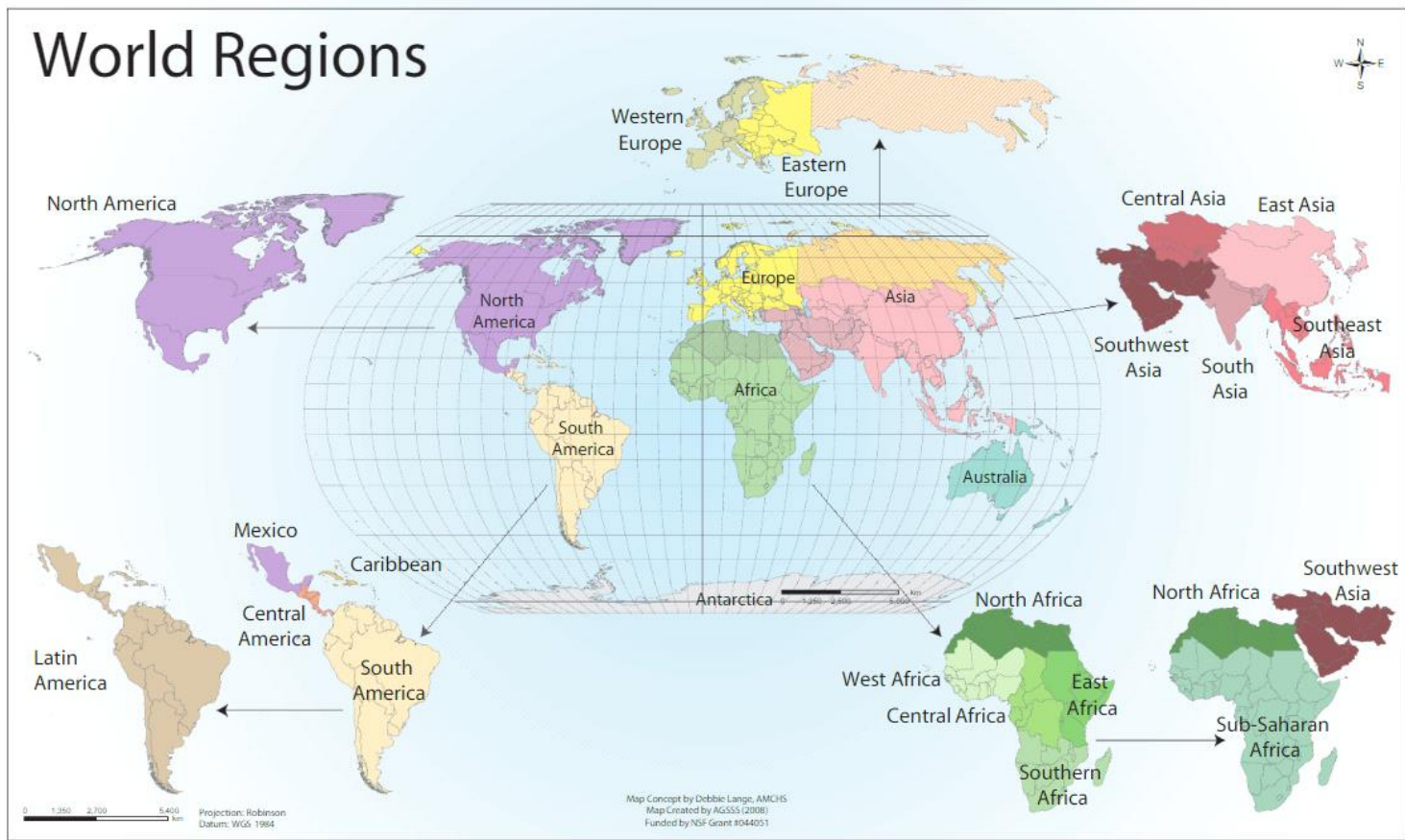


From <http://newellta.weebly.com/geography-people-and-maps.html>

# Regions

Tuesday, May 2, 2017 8:42 AM

## World Regions - KNOW THIS MAP!



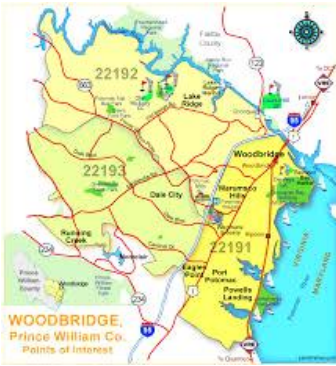
## Types of Regions

Regions are the basic unit that geographers deal with.

**FORMAL REGION** - area in which certain characteristics are found throughout the area, has shared trait(s) either physical or cultural

Example: Countries, Cities, States, or French speaking, one religion, etc. This can change based on scale.





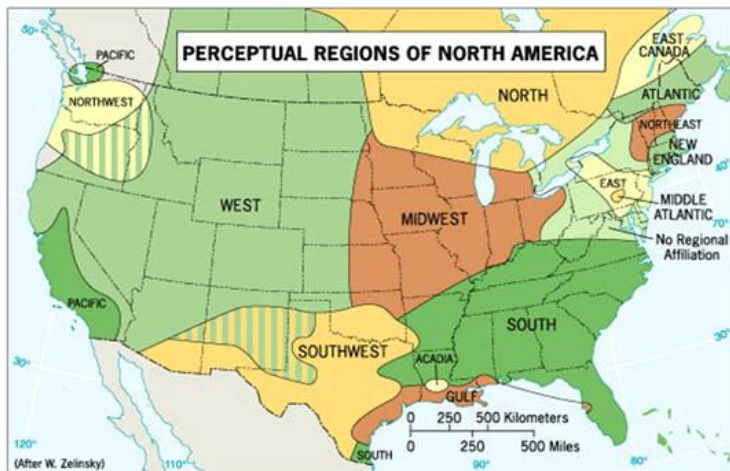
Formal Map of Woodbridge

**FUNCTIONAL REGION** - a central place and the area surrounding it, defined by a particular set or activities or interactions that happen in it, has several nodes (or places) in the region that interact and create connectivity  
 Example: the "DMV" (DC, northern VA, and Maryland), RVA (Richmond, Ashland, Glenn Allen, Henrico County, Hanover County, etc), Northern Virginia (Loudon, Prince William, Alexandria, Springfield, Fairfax, etc), Newspaper delivery area, Radio broadcast area

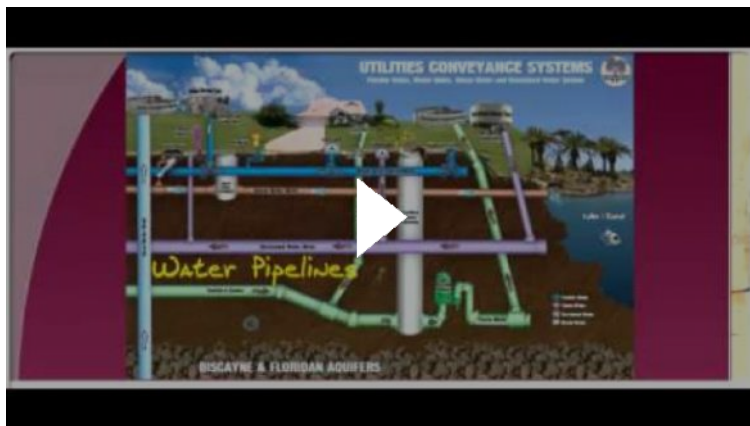


**PERCEPTUAL REGION** - area defined by people's feelings and attitudes, can include people and their cultures or physical traits, types of environment, etc - can change person to person

## Example: The Midwest, The South, Middle East, Redskins Territory



### Formal, Functional, and Perceptual Regions



From <<http://newellta.weebly.com/regions.html>>

# Determinism Vs. Possibilism

Tuesday, May 2, 2017 8:48 AM

## Environmentalism

vs.

## Possibilism

(environmental determinism)

- human behavior is affected or controlled by the physical environment
- assumes Europeans and North Americans are superior due to climate (obviously a racist theory)

- response to environmental determinism
- natural resources limit what is available to people
- people make choices based on technology and resources available

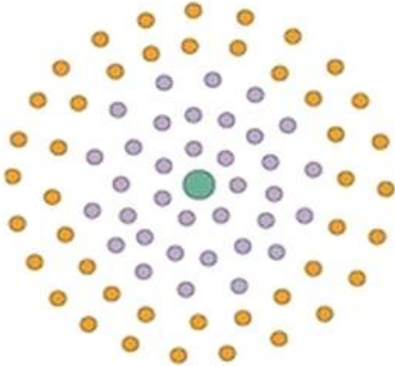
From <<http://newellta.weebly.com/environmentalism-vs-possibilism.html>>



These are theories as to how much geography shapes culture. Environmental Determinism: The theory that the climate and the physical landscape of an area greatly affect the behavior and culture of the people living there. Factors of physical geography that affect the culture include: climate, landforms, access to water (including whether a country is landlocked) and arability of land, Examples: ~ Tropical climates cause relaxed attitudes ~ Variety of weather in middle latitudes cause more driven work ethics ~ Cold climates make the people who live there brutish and harsh Easy to see how this philosophy can be pushed by Europeans and Americans, who live in those middle latitudes, to ascribe to themselves a greater work ethic. Carl Sauer and others started to point out that the theory was faulty in the 1920s. Possibilism (sometimes called Cultural Determinism): A modification of environmental determinism theory that states that physical geography can limit the possibilities of a culture but it doesn't control them. The culture is also shaped by social conditions. Basically this theory states that the environment creates obstacles that people must overcome, but allows that people can overcome those obstacles. As technology advances this becomes more and more apparent. Possibilism is believed by far more people than environmental determinism. Things like the Valens aqueduct that provided fresh water from 400 miles away to Constantinople (now Istanbul), work against the notion of people being locked in by their surroundings



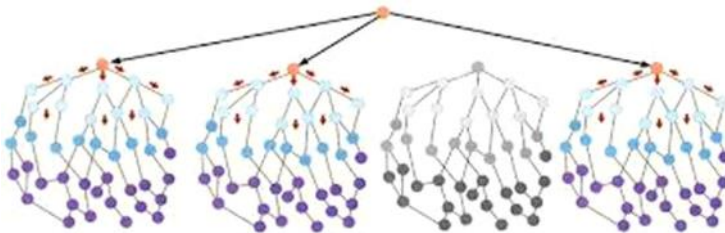
## The 3 Types/Terms of Expansion Diffusion



A. Contagious Diffusion

**CONTAGIOUS DIFFUSION:** Occurs when numerous places or people near the point of origin become adopters (or infected, in the case of a disease)

Example: Hinduism spreading throughout the Indian subcontinent



Hierarchical Diffusion

**HIERARCHICAL DIFFUSION:** Occurs when the diffusion innovation or concept spreads from a place or person of power or high susceptibility to another in a leveled pattern

Example: Many people cutting their hair the way Taylor Swift did.

## Stimulus Diffusion

Expansion occurs but the idea/product is adapted



Italians brought their food to American....then Midwest "adapted"

**STIMULUS DIFFUSION:** Occurs when the innovative idea diffuses from its hearth outward, but the original idea is changed by the new adopters

Example: Different Menu items from McDonalds around the world.

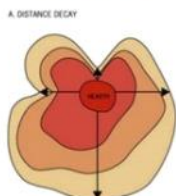
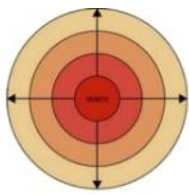
## Relocation Diffusion



**RELOCATION DIFFUSION:** Involves the actual movement of the original adopters from their point of origin, or hearth, to a new place

Example: Spread of Christianity, when people moved and brought it with them

## Time-Distance Decay



**With Distance Decay, the likelihood of diffusion decreases as time and distance from the hearth increases.**

**With Time-Space Compression, the likelihood of diffusion depends upon the connectedness among places.**

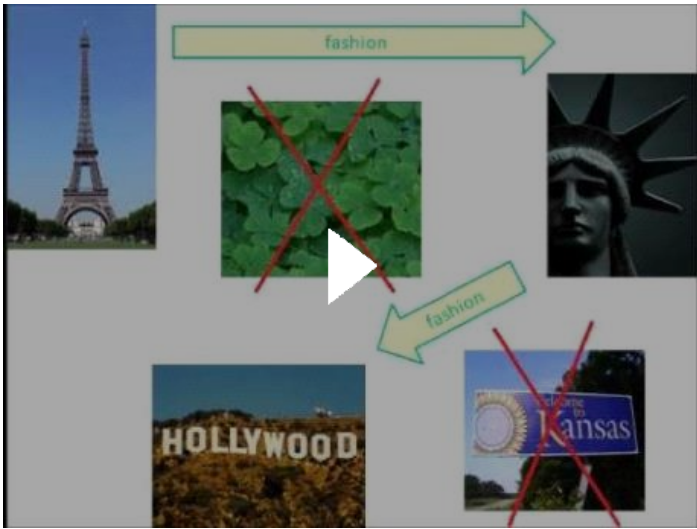
**Which applies more to popular culture?**

**TIME-DISTANCE DECAY:**

The declining degree of acceptance of an idea or innovation with increasing time and distance from its point of origin or source.

Do you think technology has changed this idea?

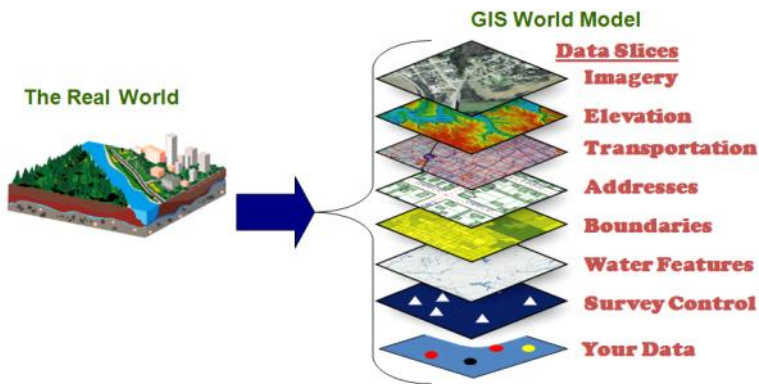
[Diffusion- expansion, hierarchical, contagious, stimulus](#)  
camirouche



From <<http://newellta.weebly.com/types-of-diffusion.html>>

## Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

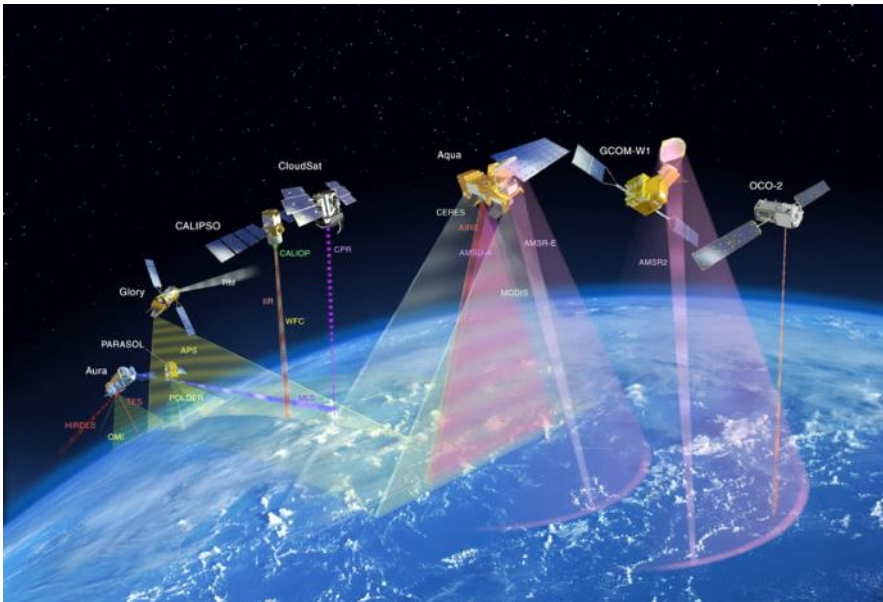
a collection of computer hardware and software that permits spatial data to be collected, recorded, stored, retrieved, manipulated, analyzed, and displayed to the user.



From <<https://quizlet.com/6218722/ap-human-geo-vocab-unit-1-flash-cards/>>

## Remote Sensing

A method of collecting data or information through the use of instruments (e.g., satellites) that are physically distant from the area or object of study



From <<https://quizlet.com/6218722/ap-human-geo-vocab-unit-1-flash-cards/>>

## **Global Positioning System (GPS)**

Satellite-based system for determining the absolute location of places or geographic features.

Geocaching: A hunt for a cache, the GPS coordinates which are placed on the Internet by other geocachers.



[Variety of Sources for Geographic Inquiry](#)



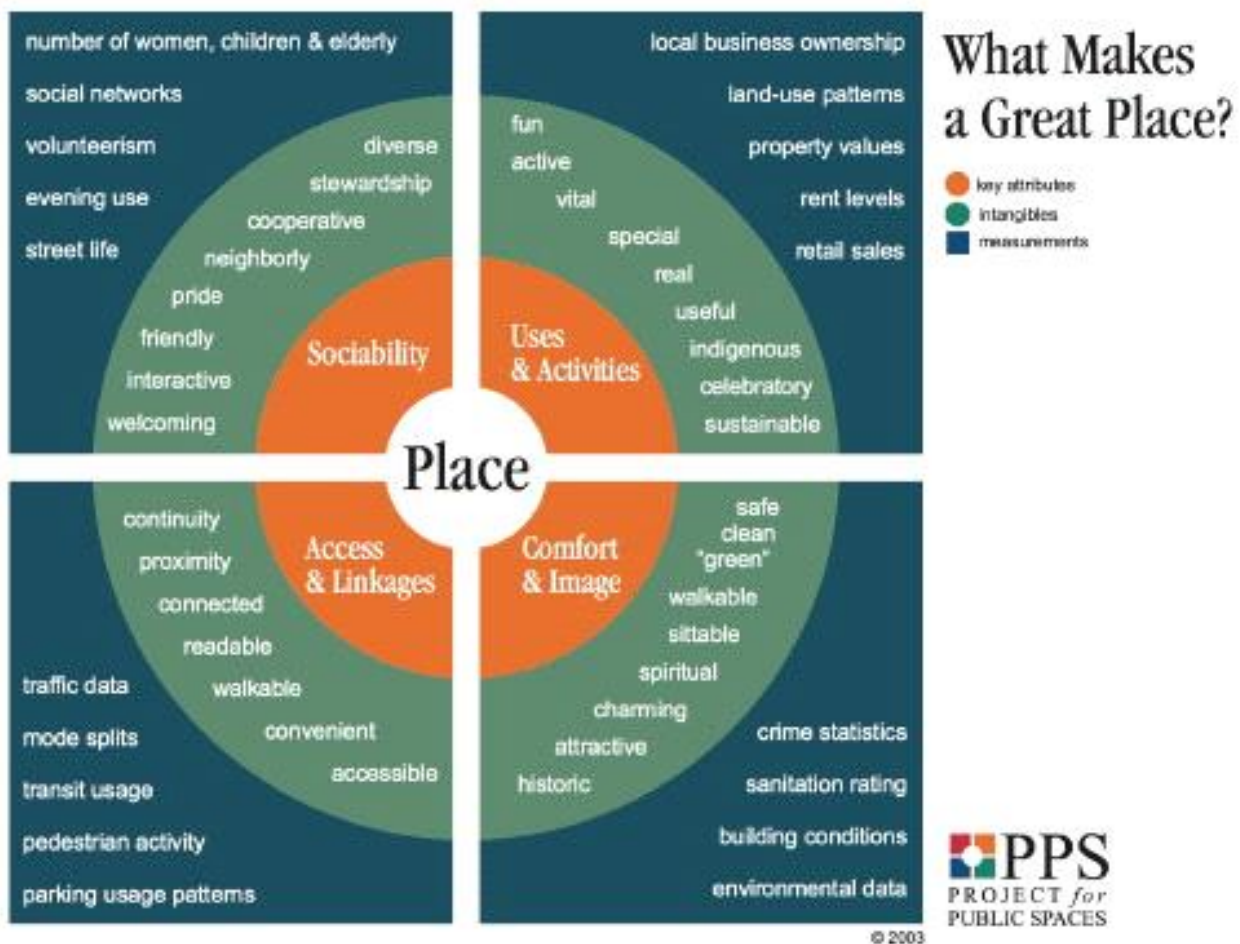
From <<https://quizlet.com/1111427/ap-human-geography-chapter-1-vocab-flash-cards/>>



### Sense of Place

Put simply, it is the feeling of belonging to a place because its unique traits, especially when it is part of your own history. When a location takes on a unique identity in people's minds.

- ~ For example, someone who grew up in Lake City, Fl. would have a different sense of place about it than someone who had just driven through or had never been there.
- ~ Sense of place is always changing when major events happen within a place. The Twin Towers and 9/11 are quick associations with New York now. Obviously, prior to 2001, New York did not have that as part of its sense of place for anyone.
- ~ Both site and situation are part of a sense of place.





**Placelessness:** The complete removal of sense of place. Some people fear every place will become so similar to every other place through globalization that unique “places” will disappear.

~ For example: The different cities in France have different origins and histories, but many Americans see them as mostly the same.



### Spatial Perspective

How humans interact with the space around them (their surroundings)

**Spatial Diffusion:** How a trait, innovation, news or disease will travel over space and time

- ~ **Relocation** - Physically move the idea from one place to another
- ~ **Expansion** - Spread of trait/idea from origin outward over land

**Spatial Distribution:** how things are spread out on the Earth's surface

### Scale

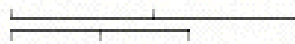
The ratio between the size of an area on a map and the actual size of the same area. Terms small-scale and large-scale are confusing. Has to do with how close the objects are to actual size. The smaller the object is in relation to its actual size, the smaller the scale.

Scale	Description	Example
Small-Scale	Depicts large areas with little detail	Map of United States
Large-Scale	Depicts small areas with great detail	Map of Lake City

=



**Verbal Scale**  
1 in. = 1,485 mi  
1 cm = 940 km



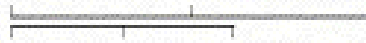
**Representative fraction**

$$\frac{1}{94,000,000}$$

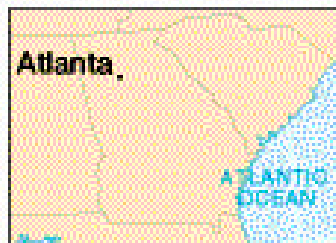
**Small scale**



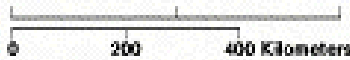
**Verbal Scale**  
1 in. = 585 mi  
1 cm = 370 km



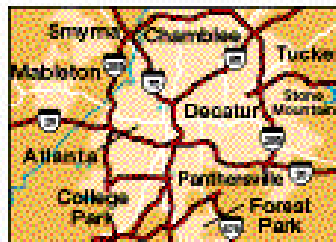
$$\frac{1}{37,000,000}$$



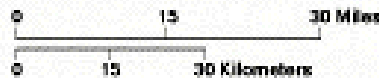
**Verbal Scale**  
1 in. = 250 mi  
1 cm = 160 km



$$\frac{1}{16,000,000}$$



**Verbal Scale**  
1 in. = 20 mi  
1 cm = 13 km



$$\frac{1}{1,300,000}$$

**Large scale**

