

The Five Themes of Geography

The world is a big place and studying it is a complicated task. You can make that job easier by learning five core themes of geography. These themes can help you answer geographic questions.

1 LOCATION

Where are things located?

Location means either an exact position using latitude or longitude, or a description of a place in relation to places around it.

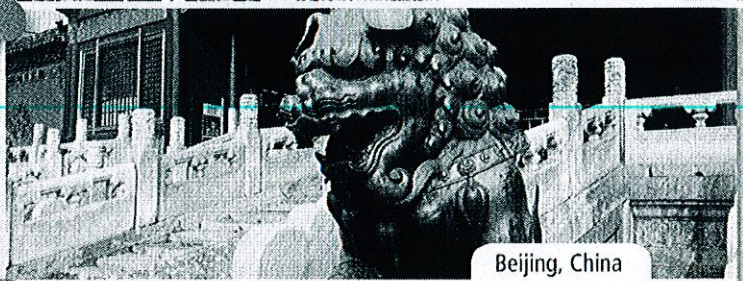


Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

2 PLACE

What is a particular location like?

Place describes physical characteristics such as mountains or rivers, as well as human characteristics such as the people who live there.



Beijing, China

3 REGION

How are places similar or different?

Regions have physical or human characteristics that unite them and make them different from or similar to other regions.

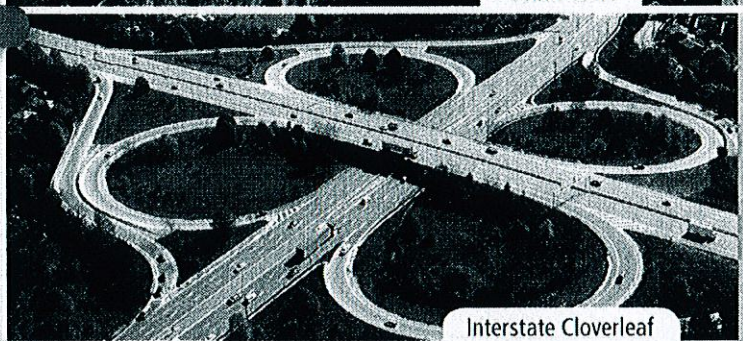


Gobi Desert

4 MOVEMENT

How do people, goods, and ideas move from one location to another?

Movement of people, goods, and ideas changes places and regions and the people who live there.



Interstate Cloverleaf

5 HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

How do people relate to the physical world?

Humans adapt to their environment and change elements of it.



Pacific Ocean Windsurfing