

QUESTIONS
FOR THOUGHT, DISCUSSION, & FURTHER STUDY

1. What is the origin of the word "geography"?
2. What are the "five themes" of geography/
3. Define "culture".
4. List some examples of cultural traits.
5. Identify one "single-trait" culture region.
6. Try to identify one "multi-trait" culture region.
7. Where were some of the "culture hearths" located?
8. What region is referred to as the "cradle of civilization"?
9. What were some of the inventions and innovations that came out of those culture hearths?
10. What are some examples of "acculturation" that can be found in the U.S.?
11. What is the difference between cultural diffusion and cultural assimilation?
12. How are geography and history related? Give an example,
13. How are geography and economics related? Give an example.
14. What other sciences or studies are related to geography?
15. What do cartographers do?
16. What is the difference between physical and political maps?
17. Identify or name at least five thematic maps?

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WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY

“Geographic Definitions”

Acculturation: The process of accepting, borrowing and exchanging traits between cultures.

Cartography: The art and science of making maps.

Climate map: A type of map that shows what kinds of climates can be found in a country or region or continent.

Culture: A way of life that distinguishes a people from another group.

Cultural assimilation: the process where immigrants lose or give up their ethnic traits and are blended into the society.

Cultural diffusion: The spatial spread of ideas, innovations and attitudes.

Culture hearth: A place where important ideas began and from which they spread to other areas.

Culture region: An area occupied by people who have something in common culturally.

Cultural trait: A behavioral characteristic of a people such as a language, custom, religion, etc., that are passed on from one generation to another.

Geography: The study of places and the complex relationships between people and their environments.

Geology: The study of the composition, structure and history of the earth.

Geomorphology: The study of the landforms or physical features of the earth and the relationships between these landforms and the geological structures below the surface of the earth.

Historical maps: Shows routes of explorers or colonial settlements in a region.

Human geography: Study of people and their patterns of settlement, their activities and their interaction with their environment.

Maps: The basic tools of geographers and can be used to display many types of information.

Meteorology: The study of the atmosphere, especially the physical processes that occur there (atmospheric pressure, precipitation, wind, cloud formations, etc.).

Multi-trait culture region: A region distinguished by the presence within it of several, overlapping sets of culture traits.

Natural resource: A resource that comes from the environment such as coal, petroleum, gold, trees, water, etc.

Natural resource map: A type of map that shows where mineral resources are located.

Natural vegetation map: A type of map that shows what kinds of natural vegetation such as trees, grasses and other plants are found in a region.

Non-renewable resource: Resource that cannot be replaced once they have been used.

Oceanography: The study of the oceans, their structures, plant and animal life, currents, and the character of sea water.

Physical geography: Deals with the natural and physical features located on the earth.

Physical map: A type of map that shows physical features and land and water elevations.

Political map: a Type of map that shows boundaries between nations and other features such as capitals and other major cities.

Population density map: A type of map that shows the average amount of people per square mile in a region.

Renewable resource: A resource that the environment continues to supply or replace.

Single-trait culture region: A region distinguished by the presence within it of one cultural trait.

1. Create a poster or collage using pictures gathered from various sources that typify the five themes.
2. List 5 cultural traits found in our country and research where these traits originated.
3. Have the students write an essay on a cultural trait that is part of their heritage and share these with the class.
4. On a world map, located and label the major culture hearths mentioned in the video. Research these cultures and list at least 2 accomplishments, inventions or innovations that originated in these regions.
5. Choose one of the world's major religions and map its spread from the place where it began. Label where it began (city or country or region) and then shade in all countries where it is the major religion today. Students can use almanacs to research the major religions of nations.
6. Research and write a report on a major event in history (ie. invasions, battles, industrial revolution) and relate how geography affected this event.
7. Choose five products, resources or crops and research where the major producers are located and then create a world map showing these locations.
8. Take a survey of items in students' homes of ordinary items (pieces of clothing, appliances, foods, etc.) And have students write down the place where these items were made, packaged or grown.
9. Have students maps where items mentioned above came from and then compare their maps with others in the classroom. Can they identify certain regions of the world that predominate in the production of specific items such as crops or clothing?
10. Have students look through newspapers and magazines and cut out examples of different types of maps. Have them display them on a poster or create a notebook of them. This project can be done by categories (travel, physical, weather, political, tech.).