How Should I Study Geography?

The 6 Essential Elements of Geography
6 Essential Elements of Geography

• 1. The World in Spatial Terms
• 2. Places and Regions
• 3. Physical Systems
• 4. Human Systems
• 5. Environment and Society
• 6. The Uses of Geography
# 6 Essential Elements of Geography

Directions: Draw the chart below. Complete the boxes with information learned in the presentation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Description of Element</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>World in Spatial Terms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Places &amp; Region</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Physical Systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Human Systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Environment &amp; Society</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Uses of Geography</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. The World in Spatial Terms

- **Location** - Where is it?
  - **Absolute Location** - exactly where it is using latitude and longitude or an address (37N, 63 W or I live at 123 North Ave.)
  - **Relative location** - Where something is located according to something you already know (I live Near the Baptist Church or Tampa is about an hour west of Orlando.)
2. Places and Regions

- **Place** (what it is like, makes it unique or special)
  - Physical Characteristics - Mother Nature put it on the earth, natural
  - Human Characteristics - people put it on the earth, man-made

- **Region** (share more than one characteristic with another place)
  - Natural Characteristics - climate, landscape
  - Cultural Characteristics - language, religion, government
3. Physical Systems

- Natural changes
  - How things like hurricanes, volcanoes, and glaciers shape and change the earth’s surface

- Communities of plant and animals
  - depend on the one another and their surroundings for survival
4. Human Systems

- **Movement** is how things move from place to place. (This can be movement of people, ideas and/or beliefs, and goods.)
- Describes how people have shaped our world.
5. Environment and Society

• How humans effect the environment
  – Good effects- planting trees for oxygen
  – Bad effects- pollution from industries

• How the environment effects human
  – Good effects- growing crops on the side of the mountain
  – Bad effects- the weather effects the clothing and shelter
6. The Uses of Geography

- Understand the relationships among people, places, and environments over time
- Understand the past and prepare for the future
Photo Analysis Activity

Directions: For each photograph in the following series, 1) select the element you think the photo best represents and 2) explain your reasoning for your selection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Element Depicted</th>
<th>Reasoning for Selection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
http://etc.usf.edu/clippix/picture/west-indian-manatee.html?size=medium
http://etc.usf.edu/clippix/picture/tampa-skyscraper.html?size=small
http://etc.usf.edu/clippix/picture/recycling-bin.html?size=medium
http://etc.usf.edu/clippix/picture/the-marketplace.html