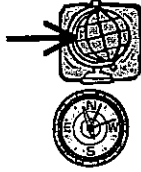


The Five Themes of Geography

1. Location

Where is it?

Why is it located there?



- Absolute location is given in degrees of latitude and longitude.
- Relative location depends upon point of reference, e.g., near, far, a short drive.

2. Place

What is it like?



- Physical Characteristics - landforms (mountains, plains, etc.), bodies of water (oceans, lakes, bay, etc.), ecosystems (soil, plants, animals, and climate)



- Human Characteristics - bridges, roads, buildings, culture, language
- All places have features that distinguish them from other places.

3. Human/Environment Interaction

How do people interact with and change their environment?



- Depend on the environment



- Adapt to the environment



- Modify the environment

4. Movement

How are people and places linked by communication and the flow of people, ideas and goods?



- Transportation, communication, trade



- Patterns of movement such as migration



- Linkages and connections

5. Regions

What are their unifying features and how do they form and change over time?



Midwest

- Regions a basic unit for geographic study.



Great Lakes

- Geographers divide the world into regions to help them interpret
- Regions can be defined on the basis of: physical and human characteristics.