

The 5 Themes of Geography



What are the five themes of geography?

1. - Location
2. - Place
3. - Human-Environment Interaction
4. - Movement
5. - Region

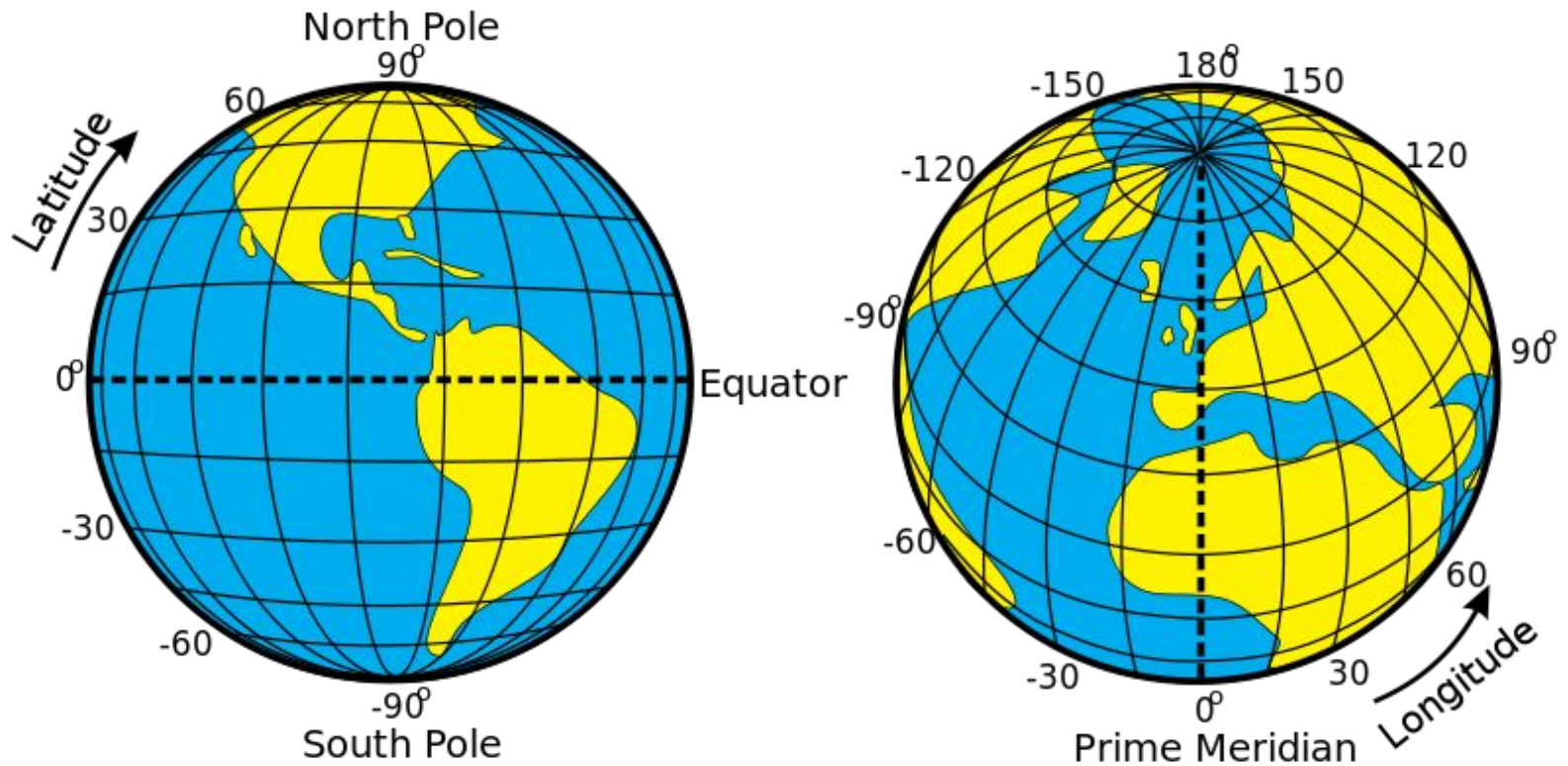


I. Theme 1: Location

A. Location is where a place is found on a map or globe.

1. **Relative location** refers to locating a place *relative* to other landmarks. (**For example, you could give the relative location of St. Louis, Missouri as being in eastern Missouri, along the Mississippi River southwest of Springfield, Illinois.)**
2. **Absolute location** references a place on the Earth's surface based on specific geographic coordinates, such as latitude and longitude. (**Based on the previous example of St. Louis, the absolute location of St. Louis is 38°43' North 90°14' West.)**

B. We use latitude (horizontal lines) and longitude (vertical lines) to describe exact location of places.



II. Theme 2: Place

A. Place refers to the human and physical characteristics of a place, such as:

- 1. Size and shape**
- 2. Climate**
- 3. Physical features**
- 4. People**



III. Theme 3: Human-Environment Interaction

A. Human-environment interaction describes the way people and the environment interact with each other.

This includes:

1. How people use land
- 2.- How people change the land
- 3.- Where people live
4. -Why they live there



IV. Theme 4: Movement

A. Movement refers to the movement of people, goods, and ideas.

1. Imports and exports

a. Imports: goods coming in

b. Exports: goods going out

2. Push/pull factors

a. Push factors: reasons people leave a place

b. Pull factors: reasons people move to a place



V. Theme 5: Region



- A. A region is an area with shared human or physical characteristics.**
- B. Formal, functional, and perceptual**
 - 1. Formal: defined formally (countries, states, etc.)**
 - 2. Functional: a central place and surrounding areas**
 - 3. Perceptual: defined by people's perceptions ("The Bible Belt")**