FIVE THEMES OF GEOGRAPHY NOTES

Kelley- Geography
Five Themes of Geography

- Location
- Place
- Region
- Movement
- Human Environment Interaction
Remembering the 5 themes

- If you can’t remembering what they are just ask MR. HELP!!!
  - M – Movement
  - R – Regions
  - HE – Human Environment interaction
  - L – Location
  - P – Place
1st Theme of Geography

Location—describes where a place can be found

Two ways to describe location

1st type is Absolute Location
- It’s position on the globe or exact location
- Latitude, or parallels, measures distances north/south of the Equator
- Longitude, or meridians, measure distances east/west of the Prime Meridian
- Example: Mogadishu, Somalia is located at 20 N and 450 E

2nd type is Relative Location
- Describes a place in relation to another place
- Example: Mexico is south of the United States.
**2\textsuperscript{nd} Theme of Geography**

**Place** - describes how areas are alike and different, also known as the character of an area

Two ways to describe place

**Physical Characteristics** -
- Landforms - mountains, valleys
- Ecosystems - examples: rainforest, arctic tundra, desert
- Climate - examples: daily weather, hurricanes, blizzards, droughts, floods

**Human Characteristics** -
- How people live, work and visit a place?
- Language, customs and beliefs
- Economic traits, issues and concerns
- Government
Region - A group of places with at least one characteristic in common, physical or human characteristics

3 types of regions

- **Formal Regions**
  - Regions defined by governmental or administrative boundaries (States, Countries, Cities)
  - Regions defined by similar characteristics such as a landform or climate type (Corn Belt, Rocky Mountain region, Chinatown).

- **Functional Regions**
  - Regions defined by a function or common use (newspaper service area, cell phone coverage area)

- **Perceptual Regions**
  - Regions defined by peoples perceptions, experiences and thoughts (middle east, the south, etc.)
**4th Theme of Geography**

**Movement** - describes the ways people, goods, and ideas move from one place to another.

- **Human Movement**
  - Trucks, Trains, Planes, Tourism

- **Information Movement**
  - Phones, computer (email), mail, internet, technology

- **Idea Movement**
  - Fads moving from place to place
    - TV, Radio, Magazines

- **Movement of items**
  - Trading goods
**5th Theme of Geography**

**Human Environment Interaction (HEI)**

Explains how people use and change their environment

- How do humans and the environment affect each other?
- How do people change the land?
  - We depend on it.
    - We depend on many resources- trees, water, oil, etc.
  - We modify it.
    - People modify our environment by heating and cooling buildings for comfort.
    - Creating dams to store water.
  - We adapt to it.
    - We adapt to the environment by wearing clothing suitable for summer (shorts) and winter (coats), rain and shine.
    - Irrigating the land for farming purposes.