

World Geography



Vocabulary

Landforms: Natural features of the earth's surface. E.g. Deserts, plateau (flat land high above sea-level), mountains, canyon (narrow and deep valley with a river or stream flowing through it), valley (low areas of land between hills or mountains) etc.

Erupt: Eject or vent material with force.

Settlements: Places, typically ones which have previously been unoccupied or empty, where people establish a community.

Niche: A specialized but profitable portion of the market.

Demographics: Study of the population. Number of births, deaths, families, in a specific region.

Epidemic: A disease that occurs in a wide area within a region. A disease that can spread within a country or the world is called a **pandemic**.

What is Geography?

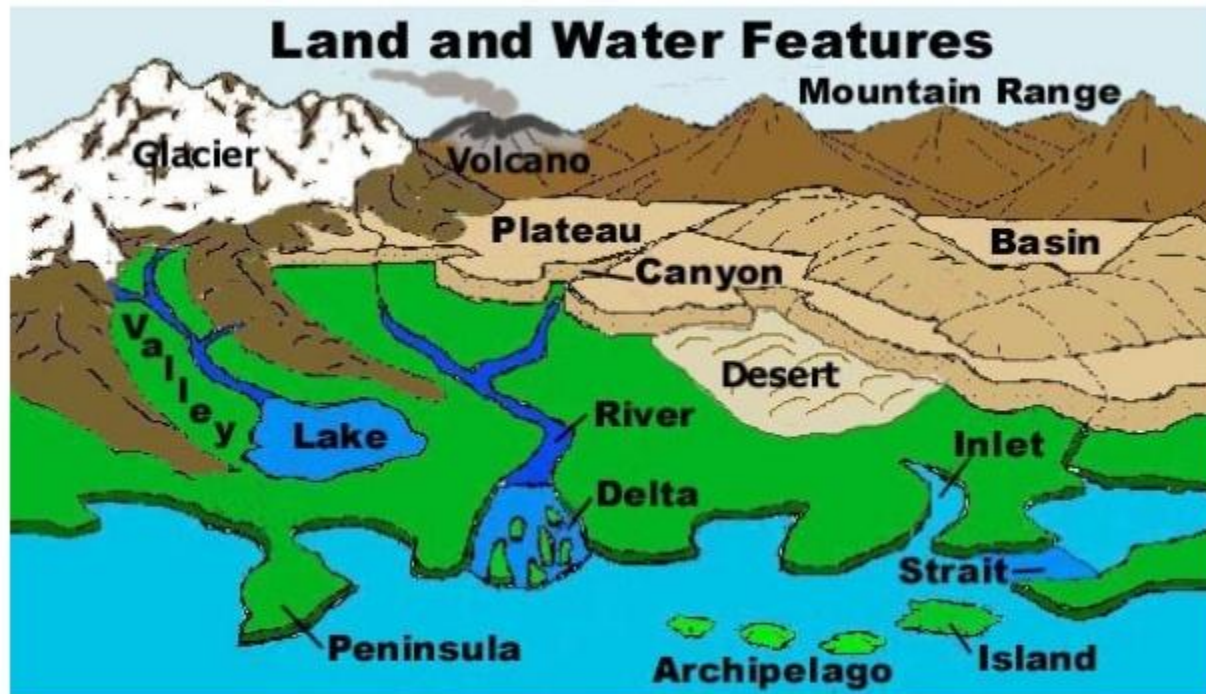
Geography is the study of Earth's landscapes, people, places and environment. It is, quite simply, about the world in which we live.

There are 2 main types of geography:

Physical Geography: Study of land, water, plants and animals.

Human Geography: Study of people and where & how they live.

People who study geography are called geographers. Physical geographers observe, measure, and describe Earth's surface. They study how landforms develop and how they change. They look at how different landforms affect climate. They also study how people change the land through such activities as building cities, digging mines, and clearing forests.



Some human geographers might study why cities and towns develop in certain places. Others study the cultures of different peoples, including their customs, languages, and religions.



Examples of Physical Geography

Flora and Fauna: Flora is the plant life occurring in a particular region or time, generally the naturally occurring native plant life. The corresponding term for animal life is fauna. E.g. The Red Panda is a native of Eastern Himalayas and South-Western China.



Natural Geysers: Are natural hot springs that boil and let out a large burst of water and steam from time to time. E.g. Strokkur geyser in Iceland and Old Faithful geyser in Yellowstone Park, USA are the most well-known geysers in the world.



Mountain Range: A mountain range is a geographic area containing numerous mountains. The longest mountain range in the world is the Andes, located along the West Coast of South America. It's about 700 kms long and spans 7 countries: Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina and Chile.

Volcano: A mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapour, and gas have erupted or continue to erupt from the earth's crust. Volcanoes can erupt once in 10,000 years or at regular intervals. Kilauea volcano in Hawaii, Mt. Etna in Italy and Piton de la Fournaise in La Reunion island are the most active volcanoes today.



Types of Water Bodies

- Different types of bodies of water include brooks, gulfs, rivers, lakes, seas and oceans. Bodies of water vary in size and boundaries. The smallest body of water above the ground is a brook and is sometimes called a creek. Brooks may also be tributaries to rivers. Tributaries are smaller bodies of water that flow into larger ones. Rivers are larger bodies of water above ground and flow in a particular direction. Like brooks, rivers may also flow into other bodies of water.
- Lakes are large bodies of water completely enclosed by land. Ponds are smaller than lakes but are also completely enclosed by land. Lakes and ponds may have coves, which are small areas of shoreline that flow into the sea. When these coves are large, they are referred to as bays.
- Gulfs, such as the Gulf of Mexico, are large areas of the ocean or sea that are partially enclosed by land. Seas are large bodies of water surrounded by land or attached to other bodies of water. Oceans are the largest bodies of water on Earth and the Pacific ocean is the largest of all. Other oceans are Antarctic, Arctic, Indian and Atlantic.

Exercises Part I:

- 1) Form sentences using the below words:
 - a) Volcano
 - b) River
 - c) Geography
 - d) Ocean

- 2) Apart from the Andes, mention any 2 other mountain ranges in the world.

- 3) Name all the continents.

- 4) Which is the largest ocean in the world?

- 5) What is a natural geyser?

Examples of Human Geography

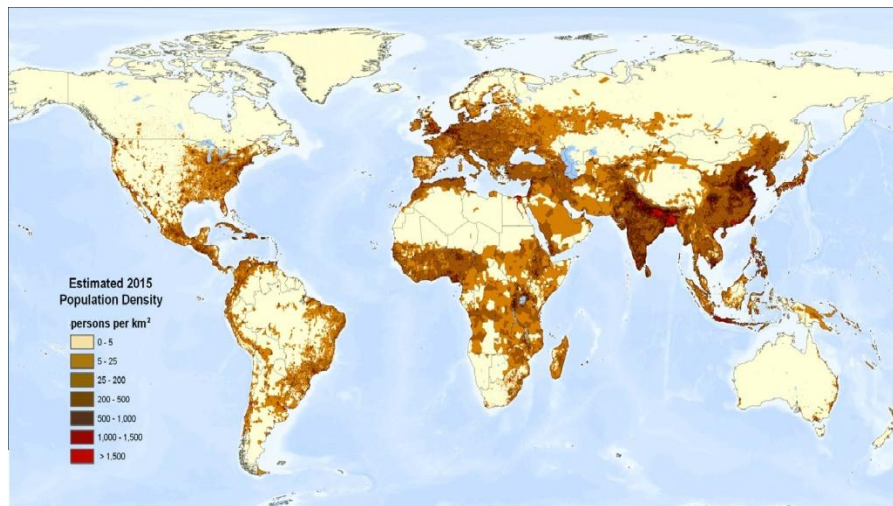
Rural and Urban Settlements:

A rural area is an open area of land that has few homes or other buildings and not many people. A rural area's population density is very low. Many people live in a city, or urban area. Their homes and businesses are located very close to one another.



Culture: Culture is the characteristics and knowledge of a particular group of people, defined by everything from language, religion, cuisine, social habits, music and arts.

Wealth and Economics: The manner in which products are produced and distributed in their respective niche markets. In addition we learn about the way in which wealth is distributed in various regions over the planet. In general, the structures which control and influence the conditions of the economy can be determined.



Demographics, Transportation and Medical patterns: We study population distribution, migration patterns and area-wise population growth. We also study transportation networks and modes to determine movement of people and products. History of epidemics and pandemics, general health and age is covered under Medical Geography.

Political and Military Geography: Military Geography is studied by people in defence services. This encompasses military outposts, distribution of military resources for optimum use etc. Political Geography covers study of borders (national and international), governance, political diplomacy and international relations.



Exercises Part II

- 1) Name two modes of transportation that are used across the globe.
- 2) Which of these does not come under Political Geography:
 - a) Borders
 - b) Flora and Fauna
 - c) Governance
- 3) People all over the world eat the same type of food.
 - a) True
 - b) False
- 4) Form sentences using the below words:
 - a) Language
 - b) Military
 - c) Population

Reviewed By	Reviewed On	Comments / Changes Made
Vidyesh	10.09.2015	N.A
Nikita	8/3/2016	Spelling in slide 4&9
Huban	30/08/2016	Reworked content.