

A Geographer's World

Vocabulary Builder

Section 1

DIRECTIONS On the line provided before each statement, write **T** if the statement is true and **F** if the statement is false. If the statement is false, write the correct term on the line after each sentence that makes the sentence a true statement.

- _____ 1. A globe is a flat drawing of Earth's surface.

- _____ 2. The study of the world, its people, and the landscapes they create is called geography.

- _____ 3. Geography is sometimes called a social science because it studies people and the relationships among them.

- _____ 4. An example of a small region that geographers might study is Chinatown in San Francisco.

- _____ 5. A map is a spherical model of the entire planet.

- _____ 6. The combination of human and physical features that make a place unique is called a landscape.

- _____ 7. Satellite images help geographers to create, update, and compare maps.

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Section 2

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------|
| absolute location | environment | element |
| interaction | relative location | |

DIRECTIONS Write a word or phrase that has the same meaning as the term given.

- 1. absolute location _____

- 2. element _____

- 3. environment _____

- 4. interaction _____

- 5. relative location _____

DIRECTIONS Choose at least four of the vocabulary words from the word bank. Use these words to write a story or poem that relates to the section.

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Section 3

cartography

human geography

hydrology

meteorology

physical geography

DIRECTIONS Read each sentence and fill in the blank with the word in the word pair that best completes the sentence.

1. _____ is the study of weather and what causes it.
(cartography/meteorology)
2. Geographers might study _____ if they wanted to know how Victoria Falls formed. (physical geography/human geography)
3. Without _____, geographers would not be able to use maps to study where things are in the world. (cartography/meteorology)
4. The study of Earth's people, including their ways of life, homes, cities, beliefs, and customs is called _____.
(physical geography/human geography)
5. Studying the world's river systems and how to protect the world's water supply are important parts of _____. (hydrology/meteorology)

DIRECTIONS Look up the vocabulary terms in the word bank in a dictionary. Write the dictionary definition of the word that is closest to the definition used in your textbook.

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Chapter Review



BIG IDEAS

1. The study of geography and the use of geographic tools help us view the world in new ways.
2. Geographers have created two different but related systems for organizing geographic studies.
3. Geography is divided into two main branches—physical and human geography.

REVIEWING VOCABULARY, TERMS, AND PLACES

Using the clues provided, fill in the letter blanks with the correct term.

1. the study of Earth's physical and cultural features

2. a part of the world that has one or more features to distinguish it from other places

3. a flat drawing that shows part of Earth's surface

4. the land, water, climate, plants, and animals of a particular place

5. the science of making maps

6. the study of the world's people, communities, and landscapes

7. the study of weather and its causes

8. a spherical model of the entire planet

COMPREHENSION AND CRITICAL THINKING

Read each FALSE statement below. On the line provided, replace the underlined word or words to make this statement TRUE.

1. The study of geography and the use of charts and graphs help us to view the world in new ways.

2. Geographers have created two computer programs for organizing geographic studies.

3. The two main branches of geography are cartography and meteorology.

REVIEWING THEMES

Using the statements below, determine what theme from geography they describe.

Themes

| location | place | regions | movement | human-environment interaction |
|----------|-------|---------|----------|-------------------------------|
|----------|-------|---------|----------|-------------------------------|

_____ 1. describes the features that make a site unique

_____ 2. looks at how and why people and things move

_____ 3. relates to areas that share common characteristics

_____ 4. describes where something is

_____ 5. looks at how people interact with the world around them

REVIEW ACTIVITY: ADVERTISEMENT

Create an advertisement that shows the many reasons to study geography. Group your reasons under the following headings:

- Physical Geography
- Human Geography

Be sure to make your poster attractive, using bright colors and pictures to complement your text.

The Importance of Geography

TV personality Dr. Harm J. de Blij (pronounced "duh BLAY") is a well-known geographer in the United States today. He appeared on the popular television show Good Morning America in 1989 to discuss geography-related issues. Here, he explains why geography is important. Read his comments and then answer the questions that follow.

Our world and our country change every hour of every day. Global population mushrooms. . . Old countries fall apart and new countries form. Familiar names disappear from the map and new ones appear. Boundaries are created, erased, relocated. Nations quarrel, even go to war over remote specks of land. . . New terms come into use: Pacific Rim, ethnic cleansing, no-fly zone, choke point.

Like the human world, the physical Earth is being transformed. A "blizzard of the century" is preceded by a hundred-year storm and followed by the worst flooding on record. New temperature records seem to be set on a weekly basis. Unprecedented [never seen before] droughts afflict one region while another drowns. And again newly prominent [important] terms abound: greenhouse warming, El Niño, ozone layer, desertification.

Is there a common denominator [connector] for all this change? Can our world and its transformations be better appreciated through a particular perspective? . . . Both questions [are answered] with one positive affirmation [yes]: geography. . .

Okay, you may say . . . geography has its uses. But does that make it important?

Consider this: a general public not exposed to . . . geography can be duped [tricked] into believing all kinds of misinformation. . . This means that when a group of scientists decides to scare the beejebers out of the public by predicting imminent [impending] glaciation (as they did in the 1960s) or looming greenhouse warming (the fad of the 1990s), far too many people are insufficiently skeptical [doubting] and, through their elected representatives, may be persuaded to spend billions better invested elsewhere.

Equally important is geography's function as an antidote [cure] to isolationism. . . In our ever more interconnected, overpopulated,

From "Geography Means Wider Worlds" (retitled "The Importance of Geography") from *Harm de Blij's Geography Book: A Leading Geographer's Fresh Look at Our Changing World*. Copyright © 1995 by Harm de Blij. Reprinted by permission of John Wiley & Sons Inc.

The Importance of Geography, *continued*

Critical Thinking

competitive, and dangerous world, the more we know about our planet and its environmental history and geography, about other peoples, cultures, political systems, and economics, about precarious [shaky] boundaries and sensitive borderlands, about distant resources and developing regions, the better prepared we will be for the challenging times ahead.

From that perspective, geography's importance is second to none.

1. What is the meaning of each geography term below that de Blij uses in his remarks? Look up each one in your textbook or another geography resource.

a. desertification: _____

b. glaciation: _____

c. greenhouse warming: _____

d. ozone layer: _____

e. El Niño: _____

2. In his remarks, de Blij suggests that the study of geography can be divided into two broad categories—physical geography and human geography. Place each of the following topics into one of these categories of geography by labeling human geography topics with an *H* and physical geography topics with a *P*.

_____ **a.** peoples

_____ **d.** economics

_____ **b.** greenhouse warming

_____ **e.** desertification

_____ **c.** glaciation

_____ **f.** cultures

3. Explain why the following events and topics that de Blij mentions would interest both human geographers and physical geographers.

a. floods and droughts: _____

b. environmental history: _____

4. According to de Blij, how does the study of geography in school help our nation's democratic system of government work better?

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