

## World Geography Terms

1. Geography - study of the world using science. Brings the word “geo” and “graphin” together which means to write about the earth.
2. 3-D - any three dimensional object such as the earth..
3. 2-D – any two dimensional object. In geography the globe will be projected onto a flat surface making a two-dimensional object,
4. Great Circle Routes – two points on the globe are traced by a line and will follow the shortest distance. .
5. Projections – planar, cylindrical, and conic are three of the common types of “maps” created by projecting the globe onto a flat surface. .
6. Planar Projection – are the subset of 3-D graphical projections, and are used for plotting great circle routes.
7. Cylindrical Projection – a mapping projection in which the surface features of a globe are depicted as if projected onto a cylinder with the globe centered-the Mercator map is an example which is used for ocean navigation..
8. Conic Projection – a projection in which the surface features of a globe are depicted as if projected onto a cone with the globe centered. Used to show detail but not used for navigation or determining distance.
9. Winkel Tripel Projection – is a modified azimuthal map projection.
10. Goode’s Interrupted Equal Area Projection – it is an interrupted pseudocylindrical, equal area, and composite mapping device for world map projections.
11. Robinson Projection – a projection used to show the whole world at once, and it has been used since the 1960s.
12. Mercator Projection – is a cylindrical map projection by Gerardus Mercator and is the oldest map projection still in use. .
13. Location – where is it at? Consists of absolute and relative location.
14. Grid System – any overlay that used horizontal and vertical lines on a map. These lines will typically run at right angles. Latitude and longitude is a grid system.
15. Hemisphere – one-half of the world (eastern, western, northern, and southern).
16. Latitude – an absolute measure which gives an absolute coordinate for any location on earth north or south of the Equator.
17. Longitude – an absolute measure of distance east or west of the Prime Meridian. .
18. Equator-the middle of the Earth's surface.
19. Prime Meridian- is the line of longitude at which longitude is defined to be 0°.
20. International Dateline- is an imaginary line on the surface of the Earth and runs in proximity to the 180<sup>0</sup> degree longitude.
21. Absolute Location- is the way of describing the position of an object or place on the surface of the Earth.
22. Map Title- The title of the map you are using (may also note the type of name of projection the map originated from).
23. Scale Bar- A box or line placed on the map that shows distance (usually in one inch equals so many inches (1” to 250,000”).
24. Compass Rose- is a symbol on a map or nautical chart used to display the orientation of the cardinal directions.

25. Cardinal Directions- north, south, east, and west.
26. Intermediate Directions Boundary Lines- the points halfway between the cardinal boundary lines such as northeast, southwest, northwest, and southwest.
27. Scale- the ratio of a single unit of distance. One amp it will note how many inches of distance on the map will represent an inch on the earth.
28. Absolute Location- is the way of describing the position of an object or place on the surface of the Earth in absolute terms-usually using latitude and longitude coordinates. .
29. Relative Location- connecting to a larger area.
30. Relief- on a map projection lines that appear raised, or sunken. This is used to show the relief or topography of the area.
31. Elevation- is its height above a fixed reference point. On a map contour lines or colors are usually used to show this.
32. Political Map- used to show government boundaries.
33. Human Features-On map projections symbols are used to show structures or adaptation of the earth such as roads, canals, railroads, and ex cetera that have been created by humans.
34. Physical Features- Natural features that are found on a map (any object not manmade). .
35. Thematic Maps- is a map made to reflect a particular theme about a geographic area such as world wheat production, climates, annual temperatures, and ex cetera.
36. Qualitative Maps- depicts the distribution of nominal data , such as oil consumption, electrical generating capacity, age, death rate, and ex cetera. .
37. Flow-Line Maps- to know the movement of people, goods, information between places and the amount being moved.
38. Geographic Information Systems- captures, stores, analyzes, manages, and presents data that is linked to location. A base map is generated and layers can be added that contain additional information/
39. Legend – A box or area on a map or projection that defined the symbols, colors, and lines placed on the map..
40. Representational Fraction – Found on map projections that show scale; such as 1” equals 250,000 inches.
41. Written Scale – a description of a scale in words such as one inch equals two-hundred and fifty thousand inches.
42. Graphic Representational – found on a map projection that shows by using a graph the scale of a map.
43. Location – where is it at? Can be absolute or relative.
44. Place – a region or area that describes what it’s like to live there. .
45. Site – a position or location.
46. Regions – A part of the earth’s surface that share a common trait that is identified or defined by the cartographer. .
47. Formal Region – a portion of territory that has defined borders-usually a political unit (nation). .

48. Functional Region – a region that has a defined core with a larger area outside of the central area that is connected to it by economic or other reasons (metropolitan area is an example).
49. Perceptual Region – an area that humans define by some human characteristic which makes its definition somewhat subjective.
50. Physical Geography – the study of the natural features of the earth's surface with some attention given to problems and adaptations humans make to earth's surface..
51. Human Geography – the study of human interaction often a combination of cultural and physical geography. .
52. Ecosystem – a specific area which can be considered a community because of the interaction of plant, animal life, and climate.
53. Movement – One of the themes of geography that traces human activity or migrations, and also how information and goods move from one area to another.
54. Human Environment Interaction – when people interact with the environment and how the impact it.
55. Cartographer – a person who makes maps.
56. GIS – geographic information systems.
57. Environment and Society – How humans impact the earth.
58. Uses of Geography – Using our knowledge of relationships among people, places, and the environment for everyday use in the “real world.”.
59. Contiguous – sharing an edge or boundary.
60. Continent – a big body of land.
61. Culture – characteristics of a group of people which includes language, symbols, artifacts values, and norms.
62. Meteorology – scientific study of the atmosphere.
63. Climate Graph – shows what the patterns of temperature and precipitation are over a period of time.
64. Population Pyramid – shows the age and sex distribution of a population usually in 5 year increments. .
65. Tropic of Cancer – a line of latitude located at  $23.5^{\circ}$  degrees North and defined the farthest north the direct rays of sun will strike the earth in a year's time..
66. Tropic of Capricorn – a line of latitude located at  $23.5^{\circ}$  degrees south of the equator and defines the farthest south the direct rays of sun will strike the earth in a year's time...
67. Arctic Circle – a line of latitude located at  $66.5^{\circ}$  degrees north and defines the beginning of the Arctic Zone where the sun during the winter months will not break the horizon. .
68. Antarctic Circle – a line of latitude located at  $66.5^{\circ}$  degrees south and defines the beginning of the Antarctic Zone where the sun during the winter months will not break the horizon. .