Cohen Middle School 100 Robinwood Avenue Elmira Heights, NY 14903 734-5078

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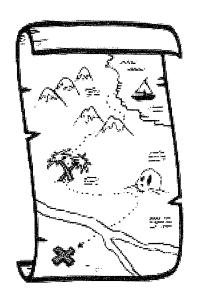
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Science of Location

Early explorers knew there was more land beyond their countries' shores. That is why they navigated through unknown seas to reach these lands. Thanks to their need for adventure, our first maps were made. The science of geography was also born.

For many years, geography was known as the "science of location." When you think of geography, you think of finding states, countries, and mountains. In fact, mapping the Earth is only a small part. Geography also includes studies about people, culture, ecology, history, and economics. Geographers do want to know where everyone and everything is located on Earth. However, they also want to know how we affect our environment. For this reason, geography includes five different themes. They are location, place, movement, human/environment interaction, and region.



Location is the most well-known part of geography. Explorers helped to show us the wonders of Earth through their travels. They used the stars and the horizon to determine direction. Navigators figured out that the shape and rotation of the Earth was related to mapping and direction. Today geographers look at the **absolute** and **relative** locations of places. Absolute or exact location of places can be measured using latitude and longitude. Your town has an absolute location. Your street address is the absolute location of your house. Relative location compares one location with its surrounding area. Your summer camp may be near the Delaware Water Gap. Your school may be about forty minutes from Philadelphia. Early explorers believed that sailing west from Europe would help them reach Asia. Geographers use landmarks, time, direction, and distance to describe relative location.

Place talks about the physical and human features of an area. Many areas around our planet have different physical and natural features. The mountains, rivers, deserts, beaches, soil, and wildlife define an area. Think about the regions of the United States. The human characteristics of a place are the buildings, churches, temples, schools, and roads that we build. They also give meaning to a place. Even our cultural ideas and beliefs help to make a place special.

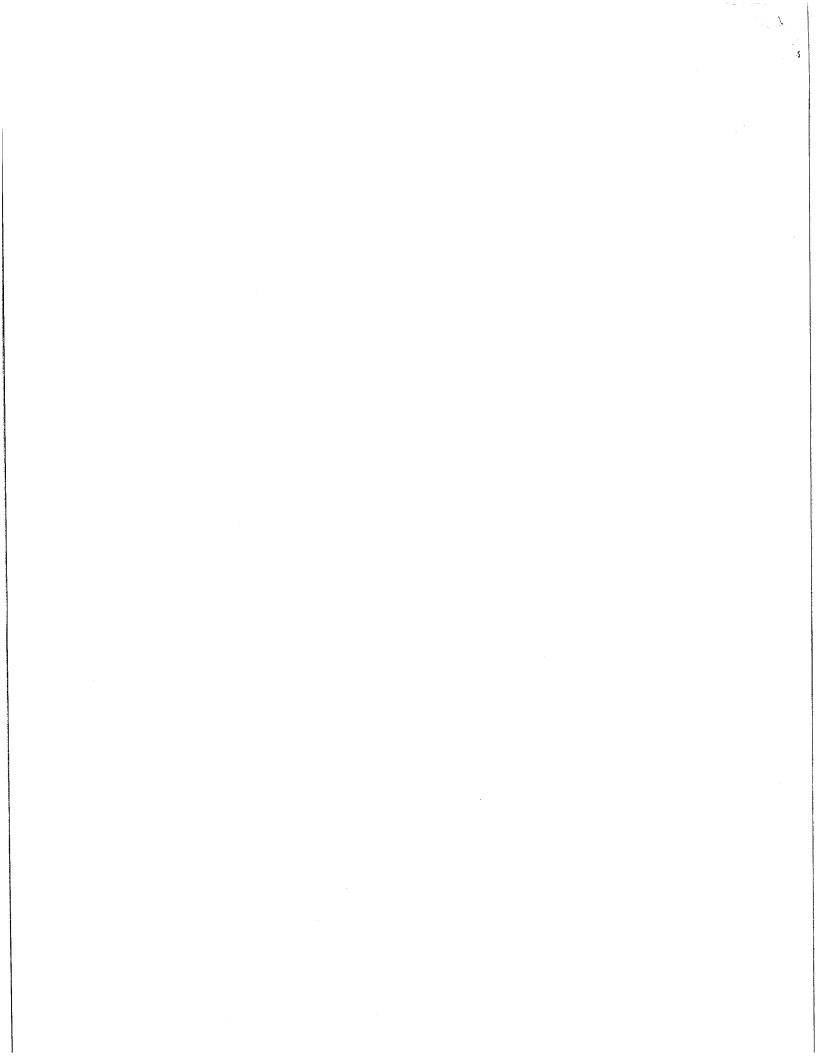
The third theme is movement. People have moved for centuries. Remember the Pilgrims? They immigrated to new countries to find a better way of life. Early peoples migrated to follow herding animals. Native American tribes in the Great Plains moved to follow the herds of buffalo they depended on for food and shelter. Today people still immigrate and migrate to improve their lives. We move daily to get to our jobs and our schools. Information moves across the internet through emails and websites. Commercials show us the latest trends and products. Movement of people, information, and ideas affect our planet's geography.

Another important theme is human/environment interaction. As its name suggests, this is about how we affect

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our environment. Geographers want to know how we adapt, modify, and depend on our environment. We	
depend on our environment by using natural resources to survive. Think about early settlers who lived in coastal	
areas. They used the waterway nearby for fishing and travel. They used local forests for wood to build houses	
and as fuel for fires. We have also learned how to modify or change our environment. The first "refrigerators" or	
ice boxes were made to keep food cold during the hot summer months. Humans adapt to their environment by	
wearing certain types of clothes based on changes in climate and temperature.	
The last theme, regions, focuses on what makes areas similar. Regions typically have the same government,	
languages, or landforms. The southern colonies had a similar economic system (plantation farming using slave	
labor) during the 1600s to middle 1800s. The Pacific Region of the United States has similar landforms and	
climate.	
As you study exploration and early American history, think about these five regions. You will begin to see	
that geography is more than the science of location.	
Science of Location	
Questions	
1. Which of the following is not relative location?	
A. Madison Square Garden on 7th Avenue in Manhattan, New York	
B. one hour from the grocery store	
C. around the corner from the high school D. near the New Jersey Turnpike	
2. Summarize the theme of movement in geography.	
3. Describe how human characteristics of a place are different from the physical characteristics of a place.	,
4. Geographers use to determine relative location of places.	

A. distance
B. time
C. direction
D. all of the above

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5.	Name the theme(s): the use of mechanical tractors to plow fields for crops
6.	Name the theme(s): the creation of colonies in the New World
7.	Name the theme(s): the position of your favorite clothing store in the mall versus the position of the mall food court
8.	Cultural ideas and beliefs do not affect the identity of places. A. true
	B. false

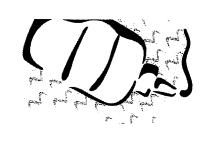


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Compare. Use < or >.

Order from least to greatest.

4. -1, 2, 3, -3, -4, 0, 6, -5



Glue this panel to your notebook.

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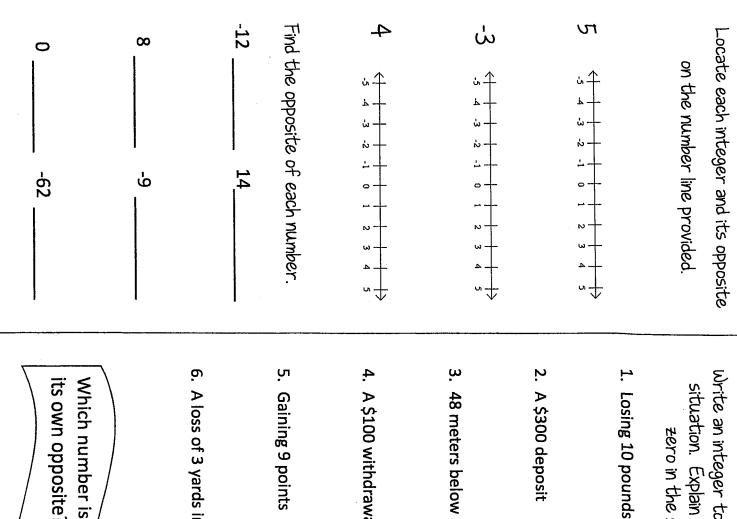


Integers are the set of whole numbers and their opposites.

Negative Numbers are less than zero. They are located to the left of zero on a horizontal number line and below zero on a vertical number line.

Positive Numbers are greater than zero. They are located to the right of zero on a horizontal number line and above zero on a vertical number line.

Two numbers are **opposites** if on a number line, they are the same distance from zero but on different sides of zero. Zero is its own opposite.



Write an integer to represent each situation. Explain the meaning of zero in the situation.

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- A \$300 deposit
- 48 meters below sea level
- A \$100 withdrawal
- Gaining 9 points
- A loss of 3 yards in a football game

Which number is its own opposite?

> Plot the following integers on the vertical number line.

11 feet below sea level 2°F below zero A debt of \$6.00 The opposite of -7°F A \$4.00 refund - 10 -12 -13 - 1 - ω - 5 4 0 111 -14 - - 2 Ø N ω 0 10 4 0 78

An elevation of 15 feet A \$14 credit

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9

-7 φ

1-11

opposite of -5 The opposite of the

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