

Unit I: Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives

Basic Concepts

- Location (absolute, relative)
- Direction (absolute, relative)
- Distance (absolute, relative)
- Place
- Site and Situation of Places
 - Physical attributes of Place (natural landscape)
 - Relative location of Place
- Cultural attributes of Place (cultural landscape and Toponyms)
- Changing attributes of place (sequent occupance)
- Spatial interaction (accessibility, connectivity, network, distance decay, friction of distance, time-space compression)
- Region
 - formal/uniform,
 - functional/nodal,
 - perceptual/vernacular
- Scale (implied degree of generalization)
- Cultural Concepts
 - Culture Hearth
 - Diffusion (relocation, expansion: hierarchical, contagious, stimulus)
- Maps and Mapping
 - Map scale (distance on a map relative to distance on Earth)
 - Map types (thematic, statistical, cartogram, dot, choropleth, isoline)
 - Grid (North and South Poles, latitude, parallel, equator, longitude, meridian, international date line)
 - Map Distortion (Size, Shape, Distance, Direction)
 - Map Projection (Cylindrical, Conic, Robinson, Equal Area)
- Map Data Patterns and Distribution
 - Density (arithmetic, physiological)
 - Pattern (linear, centralized, random)
 - Dispersion/concentration (dispersed/scattered, clustered/agglomerated)
- Mental map
- Mapping Technologies
 - Remote sensing
 - Geographic Information System (GIS)
 - Global Positioning System (GPS)