# The Five Themes of Geography

**Remember them as MR. HELP: Movement, Region, Human-Environment Interaction, Location, Place**

Name _____ Date _____

**LOCATION** **Where is it?**

Absolute location is an exact spot, such as latitude and longitude or a street address. Relative location tells where a place is compared with other places: near the river, north of the city.

**PLACE** **What is it like there?**

Physical features such as land, water, weather, plants and animals, and human features such as buildings, languages, foods and holidays.

**HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION** **How do people and the land change each other?**

People depend on the environment (river water), adapt to it (warm coats, houses on stilts) and change it (farms, dams, roads).

**MOVEMENT** **How do people, goods and ideas get from place to place?**

Trucks, ships, trains and planes carry goods; people move to new homes; ideas spread by phone, TV and the internet.

**REGION** **How is this area like the places around it?**

A region is an area grouped by something its places share: a climate, landforms, a language, a government or a way of making a living.

## Sort it! Write the letter of the theme each sentence shows.

L = Location P = Place H = Human-Environment Interaction M = Movement R = Region

1. _____ Cairo, Egypt, is at about 30°N, 31°E.
2. _____ Iceland has volcanoes, glaciers and black sand beaches.
3. _____ Farmers in Peru cut steps called terraces into steep mountainsides.
4. _____ Bananas grown in Ecuador are shipped to grocery stores in the United States.
5. _____ The Corn Belt is a group of Midwest states where corn is the main crop.
6. _____ Chicago is on the southwest shore of Lake Michigan.
7. _____ People in the Netherlands built dikes to keep the sea off their land.
8. _____ The countries of the Sahel are grouped together because they share the same dry grassland.
9. _____ Kyoto, Japan, has hundreds of old wooden temples and quiet gardens.
10. _____ Songs and shows made in South Korea are watched by people all over the world.

# Your Turn: Where I Live

## The Five Themes of Geography

Name _____ Date _____

My town or city: _____ State or country: _____

**LOCATION**

Describe where your town is compared with something else: a river, a big city, a mountain or a state line.

**PLACE**

Name one physical feature and one human feature of your town.

**HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION**

Name one way people in your town changed the land, and one way they adapt to the weather.

**MOVEMENT**

Name something that comes to your town from far away. How does it get there?

**REGION**

Name a region your town belongs to, and what the places in it have in common.

# Answer Key

## The Five Themes of Geography: Sort it!

1. **L** Location: exact latitude and longitude (absolute location)
2. **P** Place: physical features of the place
3. **H** Human-Environment Interaction: people changing the land to farm it
4. **M** Movement: goods moving between countries
5. **R** Region: an area grouped by the crop it shares
6. **L** Location: where it is compared with something else (relative location)
7. **H** Human-Environment Interaction: people changing the land to live there
8. **R** Region: countries grouped by something they share
9. **P** Place: human features that make the city special
10. **M** Movement: ideas and culture spreading around the world

Your Turn page: answers will differ. Look for a relative location that names a real landmark, one physical and one human feature, a real change to the land and a real way people adapt, a real good with how it travels, and a region the student can explain (a state, a climate, a farming area, a language area).