



— Explore. Understand. Excel. —
BUILDING KNOWLEDGE, SHAPING FUTURES



FOR COMPETITIVE
EXAMS

UPSC | PSC | SSC
NTA | STATE EXAMS

INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY

The World. Our Home. Our Study.



THE EARTH
Our Planet



LANDSCAPES
& LANDFORMS



CLIMATE
& WEATHER



PEOPLE
& PLACES



RESOURCES
& ENVIRONMENT



PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

MAPS & SKILLS



Clear Concepts



Exam Oriented



Easy to
Remember



Score
Higher

“ GEOGRAPHY IS NOT JUST
ABOUT MAPS, IT IS ABOUT
UNDERSTANDING **OUR WORLD.** ”



FOUNDATION OF
SPATIAL THINKING



CONNECTING NATURE
AND HUMAN LIFE



ESSENTIAL FOR EVERY
COMPETITIVE EXAM

CREATOR ACADEMIA



• KNOWLEDGE TODAY, SUCCESS TOMORROW •





1. ORIGIN

- The word 'Geography' comes from two Greek words.
 - **Geo** = Earth
 - **Graphia** = Description/Writing
- Thus, Geography means 'Description of the Earth'.



2. MEANING

- Geography is the study of the Earth.
- It explains the relationship between humans and their environment.
- It helps us understand the spatial patterns and distribution of natural and human phenomena on Earth.

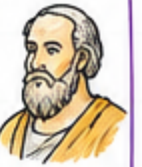


3. DEFINITION

Geography has been defined by various scholars:

- Eratosthenes**
(The Father of Geography)

"Geography is the study of the Earth as the home of man."



- R. Hartshorne**

"Geography is the study of the areal differentiation of the Earth's surface."



- J. K. Wright**

"Geography is a systematic study of the arrangements of phenomena on the Earth's surface."



- P. Vidyarthi**

"Geography is the study of areal differences and spatial relationships of physical, biological and cultural phenomena on the Earth."



4. GEOGRAPHY

- Geography is an integrated discipline.
- It bridges the gap between the physical environment and human society.
- It is both a science and an art.



5. KEY POINTS

- Geography studies the Earth as the home of humans.
- It focuses on "Where?" and "Why there?"
- It involves the interaction between natural and human elements.
- It helps in understanding environment, resources, people, places and their activities.

6. SCOPE (What Geography Studies)

- **Physical Features** – Mountains, Rivers, Climate, Soil, etc.
- **Biological Features** – Plants, Animals, Ecosystems, etc.
- **Human Activities** – Population, Culture, Settlements, Industries, Agriculture, Trade, etc.
- **Spatial Relationships** – Location, Distribution, Interaction and Movement.



7. IN SIMPLE WORDS

Geography is the study of the Earth, its features, its people and the relationships between them.





INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY

CORE BRANCHES OF GEOGRAPHY

FOR COMPETITIVE
EXAMS

UPSC | PCS | SSC
BANKING | RAILWAY
STATE EXAMS



1. PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Study of the natural environment of the Earth.

Focuses on:

- Landforms (Mountains, Plains, Plateaus)
- Climate and Weather
- Rivers, Oceans and Lakes
- Soil and Natural Vegetation
- Natural Processes and Earthquakes, Volcanoes, etc.



2. HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

Study of humans, their activities and their spatial relationships.

Focuses on:

- Population and Settlement
- Culture and Society
- Economic Activities (Agriculture, Industry, Trade)
- Transport and Communication
- Political and Regional Organization



3. REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY

Study of the Earth's surface by dividing it into regions.

Focuses on:

- Comparative study of regions
- Natural and human characteristics of regions
- Regional planning and development
- Understanding unity in diversity of the world



CORE BRANCHES OF GEOGRAPHY



4. ENVIRONMENTAL GEOGRAPHY

Study of the interaction between humans and their environment.

Focuses on:

- Environmental problems (Pollution, Deforestation, Climate Change)
- Sustainable development
- Conservation of resources
- Human impact on environment



5. GEOGRAPHICAL TECHNIQUES

Use of tools and techniques to collect, analyze and present geographical data.

Focuses on:

- Cartography (Maps)
- Remote Sensing
- GIS (Geographical Information System)
- Statistics and Data Analysis



IN SIMPLE WORDS

Geography is a broad field with different branches. Each branch helps us understand the Earth better from different perspectives.



BENEFITS OF STUDYING GEOGRAPHY



Better Understanding



Clear Concepts



Exam Oriented



Score Higher



Remember Longer

ALL BRANCHES TOGETHER

These branches are interconnected and help us understand the Earth as our home and humans as its integral part.



www.creatoracademia.in

CREATOR ACADEMIA

→ KNOWLEDGE TODAY, SUCCESS TOMORROW ←

FOR UPSC | PCS | SSC | BANKING | RAILWAY | STATE EXAMS

INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY

MAJOR APPROACHES IN GEOGRAPHY

FOR COMPETITIVE
EXAMS

UPSC | PCS | SSC
BANKING | RAILWAY
STATE EXAMS

1. SPATIAL APPROACH

- Focuses on the arrangement, distribution and pattern of phenomena on the Earth's surface.
- It emphasizes "where things are located" and how they are distributed in space.
- Helps in understanding location, distance, direction, pattern and spatial interaction.



2. ECOLOGICAL APPROACH

- Studies the relationship between living organisms and their environment.
- Emphasizes interdependence between humans, plants, animals and the physical environment.
- Helps in understanding resource use, environmental balance and sustainable development.



3. REGIONAL APPROACH

- Focuses on a particular region as a whole.
- Studies the unique combination of physical, biological and human characteristics of a region.
- Helps in regional planning, comparative study and understanding regional identity.



MAJOR APPROACHES IN GEOGRAPHY



4. SYSTEMS APPROACH

- Views the Earth as a complex system made up of interrelated components.
- Focuses on inputs, processes, outputs and feedback within natural and human systems.
- Helps in understanding dynamic interactions and problem-solving.



5. BEHAVIORAL APPROACH

- Focuses on human behavior, perception, values and decision-making in relation to space and environment.
- Studies how people perceive, use and respond to their surroundings.
- Important in urban geography, population studies, and planning.



ALL APPROACHES TOGETHER

These approaches are complementary and help geographers understand the complexity of the Earth and solve real-world problems.

6. QUANTITATIVE APPROACH

- Uses mathematical, statistical and quantitative techniques to study geographical data.
- Involves measurement, modeling, analysis and hypothesis testing.
- Helps in accurate prediction, comparison and scientific generalization.



KEY TAKEAWAY

Geography uses multiple approaches to study the Earth. Each approach provides a different perspective, and together they give a complete understanding of our world.





INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY

PERSPECTIVES ON HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMS

UPSC | PCS | SSC
BANKING | RAILWAY
STATE EXAMS

Human beings and the environment are interdependent. Geographers have different perspectives to understand how people and environment influence each other.



1. POSSIBILISM

- Environment provides opportunities and humans have the freedom to choose.
- Humans use their intelligence, technology and culture to adapt to the environment.
- Emphasizes human creativity and innovation.

Example: Building houses on plains, terrace farming on slopes.



2. DETERMINISM

- Environment determines human life and activities.
- Physical conditions like climate, relief, soil control people's behavior and development.
- Humans have limited ability to change the environment.

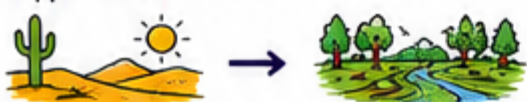
Example: Cold climate leads to heavier clothing and compact houses.



3. POSSIBILISTIC DETERMINISM

- A middle path between possibilism and determinism.
- Environment sets limits, but humans have some freedom within those limits.
- Interaction is a two-way process.

Example: Deserts are dry, but humans develop irrigation to support life.



5. HUMANISM

- Humans are the center of the Earth.
- Environment exists to satisfy human needs and wants.
- Emphasizes human welfare, development and progress.

Example: Dams, industries, urban development for better living.



PERSPECTIVES ON HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION



WHY THESE PERSPECTIVES MATTER?

- ✓ Help us understand diverse human experiences.
- ✓ Guide decision-making for resource use and environmental care.
- ✓ Promote harmony between humans and nature.

4. ENVIRONMENTALISM

- Focus on protecting and conserving the environment.
 - Humans should live in harmony with nature.
 - Sustainable use of resources for present and future generations.
- Example:** Afforestation, wildlife conservation, clean energy.



6. RADICAL / EARTH-CENTERED APPROACH

- Nature has its own value; humans are just one part of it.
- Advocates deep respect for all living and non-living things.
- Promotes minimal human interference and ecological balance.

Example: Eco-villages, minimal consumption, protection of biodiversity.



7. SUSTAINABILITY PERSPECTIVE

- Seeknt geographers view the relationship and environmental protection.
- Promotes sustainable development and us responsible use of resources.
- Ensures a better future for coming generations.

Example: Rainwater harvesting, renewable energy, sustainable agriculture.



IN SIMPLE WORDS

Diffeent geographers view the relationship between humans and environment in different ways. Understanding these perspectives helps us create a better and sustainable world.





INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY

QUICK EXAMINATION

FACTS



REMEMBER

- Small facts
- Build strong memory
- High scores!

GEOGRAPHY = GEO (EARTH) + GRAPHIA (DESCRIPTION/WRITING)
THE STUDY OF THE EARTH, ITS FEATURES, PEOPLE AND THEIR INTERRELATIONSHIPS.

QUICK EXAMINATION FACTS

● Geography is a dual natured discipline.

It is both a Science (systematic study) and an Art (description and mapping).



● Eratosthenes is known as 'Father of Geography'.



● The term 'Geography' is derived from Greek words:

Geo (Earth) + **Graphia** (Description/Writing)



● Geography helps in understanding the world where we live.



● It studies the spatial distribution of natural and human phenomena on the Earth's surface.



● Geography has both physical and human aspects.



● Physical Geography deals with natural features and processes.



● Human Geography deals with people, their activities and their relationships.



● Geography is a bridge between Natural Sciences and Social Sciences.



● Map is the language of Geography.



● Scale shows the relationship between distance on map and distance on ground.



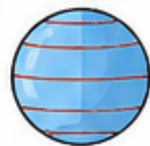
● Direction is fundamental in Geographical study.



● Location (absolute & relative) is the first step in geography.



● Latitude runs parallel to the Equator.



● Longitude runs from Pole to Pole.



● The Equator (0° Latitude) divides the Earth into Northern and Southern Hemispheres.



● The Prime Meridian (0° Longitude) passes through Greenwich, London.



● The Earth is nearly spherical (Geoid in shape).



● Geography studies human-environment interaction and spatial patterns.



● Resources are unevenly distributed on Earth.



● Region is an area having similar characteristics.



● Sustainability is an important concept in modern Geography.



● Geography is useful in planning, management and decision making.



● Weather and Climate are key elements of Physical Geography.



● Population, Culture and Economy are key elements of Human Geography.



● Remote Sensing and GIS are modern tools of Geography.



ONE LINE MEMORY TRICKS



Geography

=

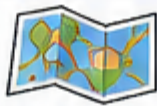


Geo
(Earth)

+



Graphia
(Description)



Map
(Language)



Scale
(Measurement)



Direction
(Guide)



Region
(Area)



INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY

MCQs

PAGE 1

FOR COMPETITIVE
EXAMS

UPSC | PCS | SSC
BANKING | RAILWAY
STATE EXAMS

1 What is the literal meaning of the term 'Geography'?

- (A) Study of rocks
- (B) Study of Earth
- (C) Study of life
- (D) Study of atmosphere

Answer

(B) Study of Earth



Explanation:

The term 'Geography' is derived from Greek words Geo (Earth) + Graphia (Description/ Writing),
Thus, Geography literally means the study or description of the Earth.



2 Who is known as the 'Father of Geography'?

- (A) J. K. Wright
- (B) Eratosthenes
- (C) R. Hartshorne
- (D) P. Vidyarthi

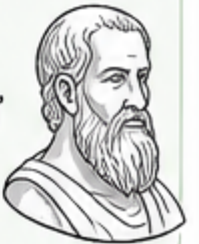
Answer

(B) Eratosthenes



Explanation:

Eratosthenes, a Greek scholar, is known as the 'Father of Geography' because he was the first to use the term 'Geography'.



3 Which of the following is NOT a branch of Geography?

- (A) Physical Geography
- (B) Human Geography
- (C) Environmental Geography
- (D) Political Science

Answer

(D) Political Science



Explanation:

Physical, Human and Environmental Geography are the core branches of Geography. Political Science is a separate discipline.



4 Which of the following best defines Geography?

- (A) Study of past events
- (B) Study of the Earth, its features, people and their interrelationships
- (C) Study of plants and animals
- (D) Study of stars and planets

Answer

(B) Study of the Earth, its features, people and their interrelationships



Explanation:

Geography is the study of the Earth, its natural and human features, people and their interrelationships in space.



5 Which tool is called the 'language of Geography'?

- (A) Globe
- (B) Map
- (C) Compass
- (D) Thermometer

Answer

(B) Map



Explanation:

Map is called the 'language of Geography' because it helps in showing and communicating geographical information easily.



QUICK REVISION POINTS



Geography =
Geo (Earth) +
Graphia (Description)



Eratosthenes =
Father of
Geography



Branches:
Physical, Human,
Environmental



Deals with Earth,
people and their
relationships



Map is the
language of
Geography



www.creatoracademia.in

CREATOR ACADEMIA

— KNOWLEDGE TODAY, SUCCESS TOMORROW —

FOR UPSC | PCS | SSC | BANKING | RAILWAY | STATE EXAMS



INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY

MCQs

PAGE 2

FOR COMPETITIVE
EXAMS

UPSC | PCS | SSC
BANKING | RAILWAY
STATE EXAMS

6

Which of the following best defines Geography?

- (A) Study of the past events
- (B) Study of the Earth, its features, people and their interrelationships
- (C) Study of planets and stars
- (D) Study of plants and animals only

Answer

(B) Study of the Earth, its features, people and their interrelationships



Explanation:

Geography is the study of the Earth, its physical features, human activities and their interrelationships in space.



7

Which of the following is NOT a core branch of Geography?

- (A) Physical Geography
- (B) Human Geography
- (C) Environmental Geography
- (D) Astrophysics

Answer

(D) Astrophysics



Explanation:

Physical, Human and Environmental Geography are the core branches of Geography. Astrophysics is not a branch of Geography.



8

Which approach focuses on the spatial distribution of phenomena?

- (A) Environmental Approach
- (B) Spatial Approach
- (C) Ecological Approach
- (D) Behavioral Approach

Answer

(B) Spatial Approach



Explanation:

The Spatial Approach studies the arrangement and distribution of features and phenomena on the Earth's surface.



9

Which approach emphasizes the relationship between organisms and their environment?

- (A) Spatial Approach
- (B) Ecological Approach
- (C) Regional Approach
- (D) System Approach

Answer

(B) Ecological Approach



Explanation:

The Ecological Approach focuses on the relationship between living organisms (including humans) and their environment.



10

Which perspective views human as the dominator and controller of nature?

- (A) Possibilism
- (B) Environmental Determinism
- (C) Human Exceptionalism
- (D) Environmental Possibilism

Answer

(C) Human Exceptionalism



Explanation:

Human Exceptionalism perspective views humans as superior to nature and having the power to dominate and control it.



QUICK REVISION POINTS



Geography means study of the Earth and its relationships with humans.



Core branches: Physical, Human and Environmental Geography.



Major approaches: Spatial, Ecological, Regional, System, Behavioral.



Human-Environment interaction is the core focus of Geography.



www.creatoracademia.in

CREATOR ACADEMIA

— KNOWLEDGE TODAY, SUCCESS TOMORROW —

FOR UPSC | PCS | SSC | BANKING | RAILWAY | STATE EXAMS





INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY

MCQs

PAGE 3

FOR COMPETITIVE
EXAMS

UPSC | PCS | SSC
BANKING | RAILWAY
STATE EXAMS



11

Which perspective believes that humans and nature are in a state of balance and harmony?

- (A) Environmental Determinism
- (B) Possibilism
- (C) Environmental Possibilism
- (D) Human Exceptionalism

Answer

(C) Environmental Possibilism



Explanation:

Environmental Possibilism believes that the environment offers opportunities and humans make choices to live in harmony with nature.



12

Which perspective argues that the environment fully determines human actions and development?

- (A) Human Exceptionalism
- (B) Possibilism
- (C) Environmental Determinism
- (D) Environmental Possibilism

Answer

(C) Environmental Determinism



Explanation:

Environmental Determinism states that the physical environment determines human activities and development.



13

Which perspective gives humans the power to modify and control nature?

- (A) Environmental Determinism
- (B) Possibilism
- (C) Human Exceptionalism
- (D) Ecological Approach

Answer

(C) Human Exceptionalism



Explanation:

Human Exceptionalism believes that humans are superior to nature and have the ability to modify and control the environment to suit their needs.



14

Which approach studies a particular area in detail considering its unique characteristics?

- (A) Spatial Approach
- (B) Ecological Approach
- (C) Regional Approach
- (D) Behavioral Approach

Answer

(C) Regional Approach



Explanation:

The Regional Approach focuses on the detailed study of a region as a whole, considering its physical, human and cultural characteristics.



15

Which approach considers the whole system and the interrelationship of its components?

- (A) Spatial Approach
- (B) Regional Approach
- (C) System Approach
- (D) Behavioral Approach

Answer

(C) System Approach



Explanation:

The System Approach views the Earth and its processes as a system where all components are interconnected and interdependent.



QUICK REVISION POINTS



Geography studies the Earth, its features, people and their interrelationships.



Core branches: Physical, Human and Environmental Geography.



Major approaches: Spatial, Ecological, Regional, System, Behavioral.



Perspectives on Human-Environment Interaction: Determinism, Possibilism, Exceptionalism.



Understanding these helps in analyzing spatial patterns and human activities.



www.creatoracademia.in

CREATOR ACADEMIA

— KNOWLEDGE TODAY, SUCCESS TOMORROW —

FOR UPSC | PCS | SSC | BANKING | RAILWAY | STATE EXAMS

