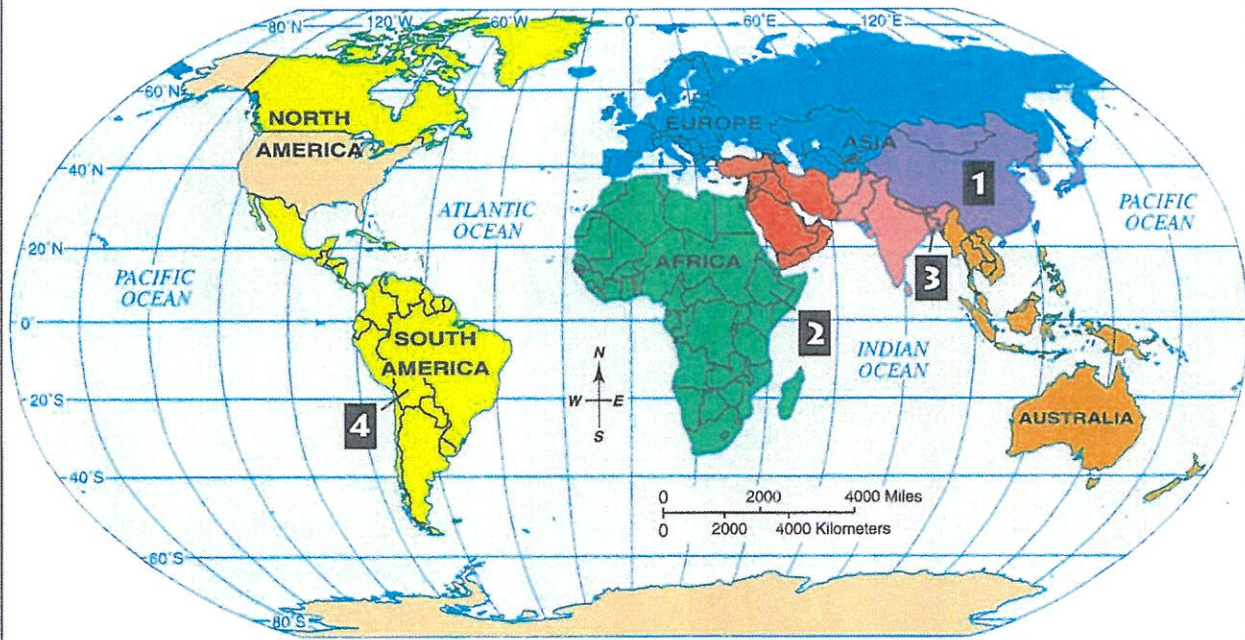
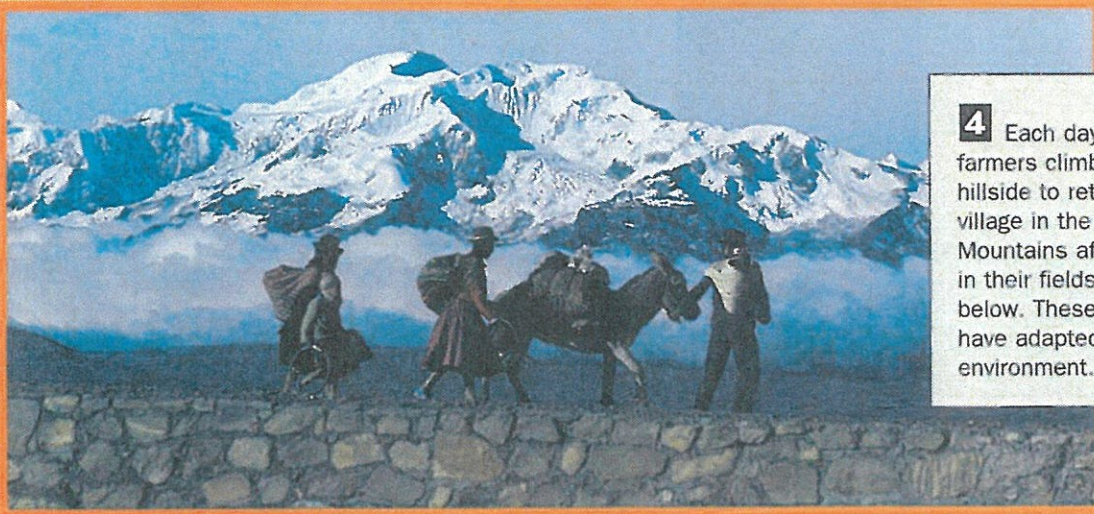


# The World



Units in World Cultures: A Global Mosaic

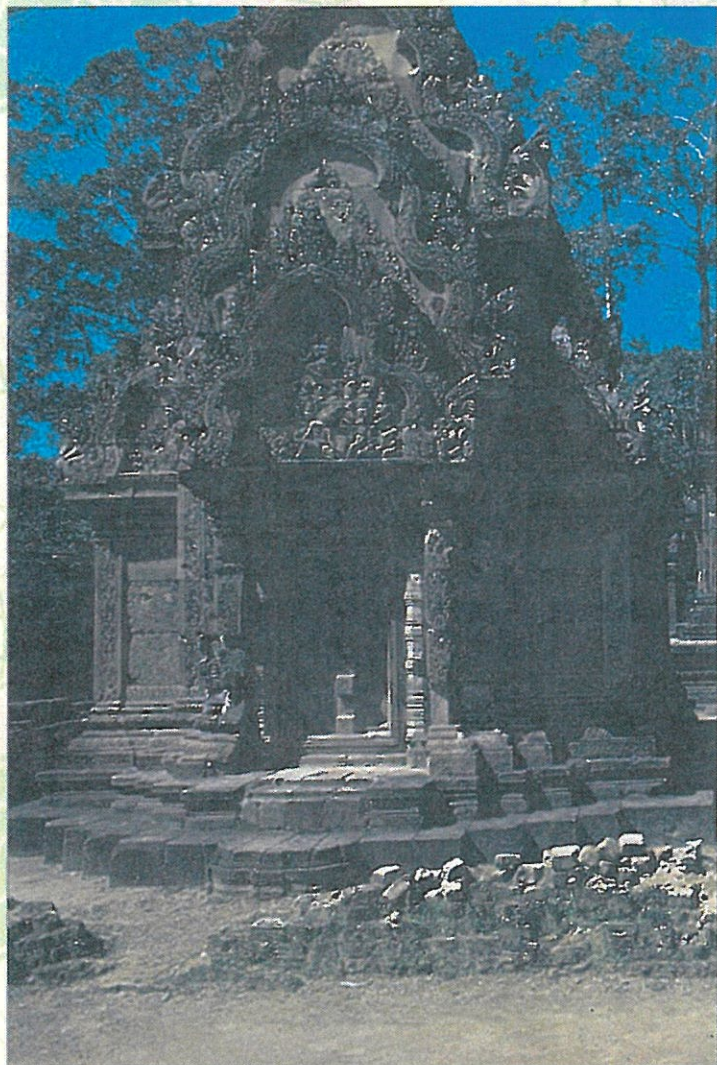
Africa	Southeast Asia and Oceania	Latin America and Canada	Europe and the Former Soviet Union
South Asia	East Asia	The Middle East	



**4** Each day Bolivian farmers climb a steep hillside to return to their village in the Andes Mountains after working in their fields in the valley below. These villagers have adapted to a harsh environment.

<b>1400</b>	<b>1600</b>	<b>1800</b>	<b>2000</b>
<p>▲ <b>Late 1400s</b> Strong monarchs emerge in Europe and overseas expansion begins</p> <p>▲ <b>1400s–1500s</b> Timbuktu is center of Islamic learning</p>	<p>▲ <b>1569</b> Mercator develops new map</p> <p>▲ <b>1700s</b> Industrial Revolution begins in Europe</p>	<p>▲ <b>1870s</b> Age of Imperialism begins</p> <p>▲ <b>1945</b> United Nations formed</p> <p>▲ <b>1957</b> Soviet Union launches first artificial satellite</p>	<p>▲ <b>1975</b> Helsinki Agreement signed</p>

# THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT



**A Temple at Angkor** Angkor Wat is the largest religious complex in the world. It was built in the 1100s by the Khmers, a people who once ruled Cambodia and nearby areas of Southeast Asia. Angkor Wat has become a lasting monument to this early Khmer civilization.

**Culture** What evidence do you think Angkor Wat provides about early Khmer culture?

## CHAPTER OUTLINE

- 1 Exploring the World Around Us
- 2 Understanding the Physical World
- 3 The Meaning of Culture
- 4 How Cultures Change

**C**reaking and swaying, the huge ship dropped anchor off the coast of what is today Cambodia. Aboard, an impatient and excited Chou Ta-kuan prepared to go ashore. The year was 1296, and Chou had sailed to this distant land on orders from the emperor of China. Chou's mission was to promote trade with the Khmer people who lived here.

Once ashore, Chou took careful notes about everything he saw. He admired the rich city of Angkor and the beautiful temple of Angkor Wat. He paid special attention to the crops the people grew and the goods they bought and sold. He commented on the mild climate. "Their whole year is like our summer months," Chou wrote, "for they have neither frost nor snow." He also noted that most Khmer merchants were women.

Like all travelers, Chou wanted to find out how the people lived in a land that was different from his own.

## CHAPTER PERSPECTIVE

In this book, you will learn about people in many parts of the world. Their ways of life have developed over thousands of years. In some ways, their ideas, customs, and traditions differ from one another as well as from those familiar to us in the United States. Some differences can be traced to geography. As you begin to study world cultures, it is useful to look first at geography in order to discover how it affects the way people live.

As you read, look for these chapter themes:

- ▶ Geography affects the way people live in different regions of the world.
- ▶ Maps give us vital information about the world.
- ▶ Culture is the total way of life of a particular people.
- ▶ Many factors, including geography, influence the culture of a region.
- ▶ A number of forces influence how cultures change.

### Literature Connections

In this chapter, you will encounter passages from the following works.

*Land of the Spotted Eagle*, Chief Luther Standing Bear

*The Life of an Irish Travelling Woman*, Sharon Gmalch

For other literature suggestions, see Connections With Literature, pages 804–808.

1

## EXPLORING THE WORLD AROUND US

### FIND OUT

What are the five themes of geography?

How does movement contribute to global interdependence?

What are some ways of defining regions?

**Vocabulary** geography, location, latitude, longitude, export, import, interdependence

One hundred years ago, Chief Standing Bear spoke of the vital connection between his people, the Lakota, and their environment:

“ [They] . . . loved the earth and all things of the earth. . . . To sit or lie upon the ground is to be able to think more deeply and to feel more keenly; . . . to see more clearly into the mysteries of life and come closer in kinship to . . . all creatures of the earth, sky, and water.”

Wherever people live, they have shaped the environment to suit their needs. The human ability to change the environment, however, is limited. Often, people must adapt their agriculture, industry, arts, and daily habits to their surroundings. People who live in desert regions wear light, loose-fitting clothing. People who live in the northernmost and southernmost regions of the globe adjust to winters without daylight and summers without night. To understand world cultures, it is important to see the connections between people and their environment.

## What Is Geography?

**Geography** is the study of where people, places, and things are located and how they relate to each other. In ancient Egypt, priests studied the land. Through careful observation and mathematics, they calculated how much grain the land could produce. They then used that knowledge to collect the taxes that supported their temples. Later, Greek geographers built on these and other advances to create maps of Europe, Africa, and Asia.

Geography has many uses beyond creating maps, globes, and charts. Today, geographers have developed five basic themes to help us understand the links between people and the Earth. The five themes are location, place, interaction between people and their environment, movement, and region. Each theme offers a way of looking at the world and its people.

### Location

Imagine that a friend told you she was flying to Goa next week. “Where is that?” you ask. You want to know Goa’s **location**, its position on the Earth’s surface.

Your friend tells you that Goa is a former Portuguese colony on the southwest coast of India. By describing the position of Goa in relation to another place, your friend is giving its relative location. Sometimes, people need to know the absolute, or exact, location of a place. To give absolute location, people use the grid of numbered lines of latitude and longitude seen on many maps or globes.

Lines of **latitude** measure distances north or south of the Equator. The Equator divides the Earth into two halves, called hemispheres. The Northern Hemisphere lies north of the Equator, and the Southern Hemisphere lies south of it. Lines of **longitude** measure distances east or west of the Prime Meridian. The Prime Meridian is an imaginary line that runs through Greenwich (GREHN ihch), England. The circle formed by the Prime Meridian divides the Earth into the Eastern and Western hemispheres.

Using lines of latitude and longitude, you can locate any place on Earth. Find Goa on the map on page 188. As you can see, Goa’s exact location is 15 degrees (°) north latitude and 73 degrees (°) east longitude. This location is written as 15°N/73°E.

### Place

Geographers describe places in terms of their physical and human characteristics. Physical characteristics include the landforms, climate, soil, and animal life of a place. Human characteristics include the people’s way of life—their activities, means of transportation, religion, and languages.

Every place in the world has its own physical and human characteristics. Think of Albany, the capital of New York State. Albany’s physical characteristics include its position on the Hudson River, its weather, its landforms, and its plant and animal life. Among Albany’s human characteristics are state office buildings, stores, houses, and roads.

Albany’s physical and human characteristics are connected. Albany’s position on the Hudson River drew settlers there in the 1600s. Today, the city is still a busy river port. As you read about different places in this book, notice their physical and human characteristics.

### Interaction Between People and Their Environment

Wherever people live, they change the world around them. They may clear forests, blast tunnels through mountains, or plow fields. Indeed, throughout history, much of what we call progress has involved people changing the environment.

**Hidden costs.** Today, we are learning that this kind of progress can have hidden costs. Some of our actions have polluted the air, water, and land. People have built highways to ease travel from place to place. Cars and trucks, however, are a major cause of air pollution. Farmers have used pesticides to kill insects that destroy crops, yet pesticides in our water and in food can harm us.

A key issue is how we interact with the environment. As you will read, people in all parts of the world face hard choices. They must decide how to develop their economies without destroying the environment.

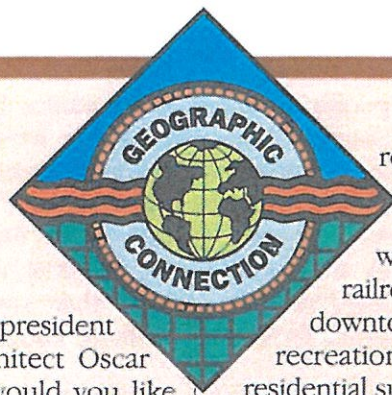
**People adapt.** People's effort to change the environment is only one form of interaction. As you have read, sometimes people adapt to their environment instead. In the

frozen lands of the Arctic north, for example, the Eskimos build homes out of ice. In parts of China where there are few trees, people chop vegetables, fish, and meat into bite-sized pieces. They "stir-fry" the food quickly, using little fuel. Many Americans enjoy stir-fried foods. However, probably few people realize that this style of cooking resulted from Chinese cooks adapting to their environment.

**The Nile River Valley** Ninety-six percent of Egypt is desert. The Nile River Valley is a strip of fertile land that contrasts sharply with the surrounding land. Most people in Egypt live in the Nile Valley or near the mouth of the Nile where it empties into the Mediterranean Sea. **Geography** How does the geography of Egypt affect where people live?



## Brasília—A City Built From Scratch

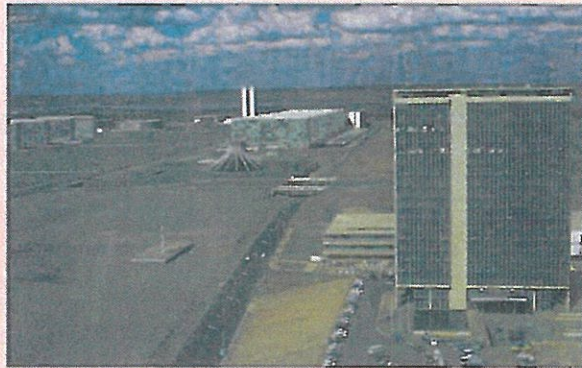


Early in the 1950s, Brazilian president Juscelino Kubitschek gave architect Oscar Niemeyer a challenge. “How would you like to be my Michelangelo?” Kubitschek asked, referring to the great Italian artist. Niemeyer’s task was to design and build a new capital city deep in the heart of Brazil. Brasília was to be an ideal, ultramodern city—a new place created in the wilderness.

For years, Brazilians had debated moving the capital inland from Rio de Janeiro on the coast. A new capital, many argued, would bring people and trade into the interior region. In 1957, work finally began. The location chosen was the Planalto Central, a bare plateau 3,500 feet (1,067 m) high. Almost overnight, the Planalto became a 24-hour-a-day construction site for the city of Brasília. Machines, materials, and workers by the thousands were ferried in by raft.



The new city was designed roughly in the shape of an airplane. Government buildings are located where the pilot would sit, while the “tail” houses a railroad station. In between is a large downtown area, with hotels, shops, and recreational facilities. The “wings” are 60 residential superblocks with apartment buildings, gardens, schools, shops, and theaters.



After more than three years of nonstop work, Brasília was officially dedicated on April 21, 1960. Years later, Niemeyer said, “I’d have more gardens and a center where cars couldn’t go, and perhaps I’d have given the buildings a few more stories.” Still, he was proud that the city he designed was “disciplined and above the chaos of other cities.”

1. Where was Brazil’s old capital located?
2. Why was Brazil’s interior chosen as the site for Brasília?
3. **Applying Information** How does the building of Brasília illustrate the theme of interaction?

### Movement

Another theme of geography is the movement of people, goods, and ideas. These movements often occur together.

**Migration.** Even before recorded history, people traveled from one place to another.

Early peoples often moved in order to find food. In more recent times, millions of people came to the United States to find freedom or a better life. Sometimes, people leave their homelands because of natural disasters or wars. Still others are moved against their will. Over a period of 400 years, slave traders took

millions of Africans by force. From the 1500s to the 1800s, they shipped them across the Atlantic Ocean to plantations in the Americas.

**Trade.** Trade is the movement of goods between areas. It occurs because areas of the world have different resources and different levels of economic development. Trade involves **exports**, or goods sent to markets outside a country, and **imports**, or goods brought into a country. Some countries export natural resources such as copper, or farm products such as coffee beans. Other countries export manufactured goods such as computers, tanks, and cars.

**Ideas spread.** The movement of ideas occurs with the movement of people and goods. More than 2,000 years ago, missionaries and merchants from India spread the religious teachings of Buddhism to the peoples of China and Southeast Asia. Today, advanced communication and transportation help to spread ideas faster. Television viewers in Angola in Africa, for example, can watch the latest movies from Brazil in South America.

**Interdependence.** The rapid movement of people, goods, and ideas adds to global interdependence. **Interdependence** is the dependence of countries on goods, resources, and knowledge from other parts of the world. For example, Americans get their coffee from South America, tea from India, and oil from the Middle East. For our economy to prosper, we must sell American-made products to people around the globe. In this book, you will read about how interdependence is affecting our world.

## Region

A region is an area with its own unifying characteristics. Geographers define regions in several ways. Regions can be identified by physical characteristics, such as landforms or climate. The world's continents are examples of physical regions. The Rocky Mountain area of the United States and the rain forests of Brazil are also physical regions.

A region can also be identified by cultural, political, or economic features. The Muslim world, for example, is the cultural region influenced by the religion of Islam. It includes parts

of Africa and Asia, including the Middle East.\* Nations are examples of political regions.

Because regions can be defined in different ways, a country can belong to several different regions. Pakistan, for example, is part of the physical region of South Asia. Because most Pakistanis are Muslims, Pakistan is also part of the Muslim world, a cultural region. Pakistan also belongs to the economic region known as the developing world, sometimes called the Third World. Nations in the developing world are working to build modern industrial economies.

In this book, you will read about many regions. They include Africa, South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia, Latin America, Canada, the Middle East, and Europe. The location, history, resources, and people of each region help it to create its own identity. As you will discover, each region also has great variety.

## SECTION 1 REVIEW

- 1. Locate:** (a) Africa, (b) South Asia, (c) Southeast Asia, (d) East Asia, (e) Latin America, (f) Middle East, (g) Europe.
- 2. Define:** (a) geography, (b) location, (c) latitude, (d) longitude, (e) export, (f) import, (g) interdependence.
- 3.** Briefly describe the five themes of geography.
- 4.** (a) Give two examples of how people have reshaped their environment. (b) Give two examples of how they have adapted to their environment.
- 5.** How have modern communication and transportation affected movement?
- 6. Applying Information** Describe three different ways to identify the region in which you live.
- 7. Writing Across Cultures** Write a paragraph describing how movement affects the way of life of people around the world.

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\* The Middle East lies in the physical region of southwestern Asia. North African nations such as Egypt and Algeria are part of the physical region of Africa. Through their history and culture, the nations of North Africa have strong ties to the Muslim world of the Middle East.

## UNDERSTANDING THE PHYSICAL WORLD

### FIND OUT

Why have mapmakers created different map projections?

What are the four major landforms?

What factors influence climate?

**Vocabulary** map projection, topography, vegetation, mountain, elevation, hill, plain, plateau, climate.

About 2,500 years ago, the leaders of Athens, a city-state in Greece, asked the rulers of nearby Sparta for aid in a war against Persia. To convince them to fight, the Athenians sent the Spartans a map of the world made out of bronze. The Athenians wanted the Spartans to see how close the two cities were. They hoped that Sparta would then join them in the fight against Persia.

The gift had an unexpected result, however. Studying the map, the Spartans noted that Persia lay across the Aegean Sea. They refused to fight, saying that Persia was too far away to be a threat. The Spartans were wrong. Within a year, Persian armies had crossed the Aegean, and Sparta had to fight.

Since ancient times, people have used maps to learn about the world. Knowing the location of continents and countries is important to understanding world cultures.

### Tools of Geographers

Geographers use globes and maps to represent the Earth. A globe is more accurate than a map. Shaped like the Earth, a globe gives a true picture of the size and shape of landmasses and of distances across oceans.

But globes are awkward to carry around, so most people use maps instead. Even so, maps have a major drawback. Because the Earth's surface is curved and maps are flat, all maps distort the Earth in some way.

Over the years, mapmakers have developed many map projections. **Map projections** are ways of showing the curved Earth on a flat surface. Each projection has advantages and disadvantages. Some show the shape of landmasses correctly but not their size. Others show accurate sizes but distort shapes.

**Mercator projection.** By the mid-1400s, sailors from Europe were exploring the oceans. They needed better maps than those that had been made in the past. In 1569, a European mapmaker, Gerardus Mercator, created a map that showed direction accurately. Sailors could then know if they were sailing north, south, east, or west.

Besides showing direction, a Mercator map gives an accurate view of land areas near the Equator. However, it distorts the size and shape of lands near the North and South poles. Greenland, for example, is only one eighth the size of South America. Yet in a Mercator projection, Greenland looks larger than South America.

**Interrupted projection.** In an interrupted projection, mapmakers show the correct sizes and shapes of landmasses by cutting out parts of oceans. The cuts, however, make it impossible to measure distances accurately or to plot a course across an ocean.

**Peters projection.** The Peters projection shows the correct areas of landmasses and oceans. Directions are also accurate, as they are on a Mercator map. Still, a Peters projection distorts the shapes of Africa and South America. They appear longer and thinner than they really are.

**Robinson projection.** Today, many maps use the Robinson projection. It shows the correct sizes and shapes of most landmasses. It also gives a fairly accurate view of the sizes of oceans and the distances across land areas. But even the Robinson projection has distortions, especially in regions shown along the edges.