

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHY STUDY GUIDE:

PART 1: VOCABULARY: Study the definitions for the following terms.

1. GEOGRAPHY: the study of the physical, biological, and cultural features of the earth's surface
2. LATITUDE: lines measuring distance north to south of the Equator (horizontal lines – left and right)
3. LONGITUDE: lines measuring distance east or west of the Prime Meridian (vertical lines - up and down)
4. PHYSICAL FEATURES: features on the earth's surface – mountains, rivers, lakes, etc.
5. NATURAL RESOURCES: materials humans take from the environment in order to survive (lumber, water, minerals, oil, soil, etc.)
6. CLIMATE: average weather of an area over a period of 20-30 years
7. WEATHER: the condition of the atmosphere in a given place at a given time
8. ENVIRONMENT: the surroundings in which we live

PART 2: SHORT ANSWER: Study the following questions and answers to help you remember the most important parts of this unit.

1. How are history and geography related to each other? Understanding geography is important to the study of history because everything that has ever happened in the human past has happened in the environment. Everything that has happened in human history has been influenced by the geography of that specific area. As a human, we can either change our environment or we change to fit into it.

2. What type of location do lines of latitude and longitude show? Lines of Latitude measure distance north and south of the equator. Lines of Longitude measure distance east or west of the prime meridian.

3. Explain the theme called "Interaction Between People and Their Environment." As a human, we can either change our environment or we change to fit into it.

4. What are some other names for physical features? Landform or Geographic Feature

5. List several examples of physical features. Hills, islands, canyons, deserts, oceans, rivers, jungles, mountains, marshes, waterfalls, plains, volcanos, etc.

6. What hemisphere is North America located in? Northern and Western Hemispheres

7. What nations/countries make up North America? USA, Canada, Mexico

8. List the main types of maps and what they show?

- Physical maps: show physical features, geographical features or landforms on the surface of the earth.
- Political maps: show states, cities, capitals, roads, etc.

9. List the 4 different parts of a map and what they show to tell.

- Title: tells what the map is,
- Legend/Key: explains the different parts of the map,
- Scale: shows the relationship between the distance on a map and the distance on the real location,
- Compass Rose: shows the direction north/south/east/west