

Introduction of Geography

Geography:- Geography is the study of locational and spatial variation in natural and human phenomena on Earth.

Vidal de la Blache

Geography is the science of places, concerned with the qualities of potentialities of countries. The particular character of a country is expressed by the totality of its feature, the social diversities associated with the diversities of places. Geography mainly divided into two parts.

- **Physical geography**
- **Human geography**

Physical geography:- Physical Geography focuses on geography as an Earth Science. It aims to understand the physical layout of the Earth.

Human geography:- Human Geography is a branch of geography that focuses on the study of patterns and processes that shape human interaction with various environments. It encompasses human, political, cultural, social, and economic aspects. Economic Geography is one of the branch/part of Human Geography.

Economic geography:- is the study of the widely varying economic conditions across the earth. The economics of a geographical area can be influenced by climate, geology, and socio-political factors. Geology can affect resource availability, cost of transportation, and land use decisions. Climate can influence natural resource availability (particularly agriculture and forestry products), and working conditions and productivity. The social and political institutions that are unique to a region also have an impact on economic decisions.

Earth Surface

Atmosphere

The atmosphere is the vast gaseous envelope of air that surrounds the Earth. Its boundaries are not easily defined. The atmosphere contains a complex system of gases and suspended particles that behave in many ways like fluids. Many of its constituents are derived from the Earth by way of chemical and biochemical reactions.

Hydrosphere

The hydrosphere describes the waters of the Earth. Water of the hydrosphere exists in three states: liquid, solid and gaseous (water vapor). Water occurs in two general chemical conditions, fresh and salty. Water exists on the Earth in various stores,

including the: atmosphere, oceans, lakes, rivers, glaciers, snowfields and groundwater. Water moves from one store to another by way of: evaporation, condensation, precipitation, deposition, runoff, infiltration, sublimation, transpiration, and groundwater flow.

Lithosphere

Is the solid inorganic portion of the Earth (composed of rocks, minerals, and elements). It consists with crust and a portion of the upper mantle.

Biosphere

Zone of the Earth where life is found. The biosphere consists of all living things, plant and animal. This zone is characterized by life in profusion, diversity, and ingenious complexity. Cycling of matter in this sphere involves not only metabolic reactions in organisms, but also many abiotic chemical reactions. Also called Ecosphere.

Father of geography?

Eratosthenes, the ancient Greek scholar is called the ‘father of geography’. He was the first one to use the word geography and he also had a small-scale notion of the planet that helped him to determine the circumference of the earth.

About Eratosthenes:

- Eratosthenes was multi-talented. He was a Greek mathematician, geographer, poet, astronomer, and music theorist
- He calculated the circumference of the Earth without leaving place Egypt
- In his three-volume work Geography he described and mapped his entire world known to him, without even dividing the Earth into five climate zones which are given below:
Two freezing zones around the poles, two temperate zones, and a zone encompassing the equator and the tropics
- He was a man of learning and exploring, becoming the chief librarian at the Library of Alexandria
- He invented the discipline of geography, including the terminology used today