

# SPATIAL SIGNIFICANCE



Guardian graphic | Source: Reporters Without Borders

## REVIEW: What is a Geographical Issue?

- A complex problem or issue
- Long lasting
- Large Impact
- More than one “right answer”  
→ many opinions



# GEOGRAPHICAL THINKING

**WHAT IS WHERE?**

**WHY THERE?**

**WHY CARE?**



# BREAKING IT DOWN



## WHAT IS WHERE?

What? → What is happening? How long has it been happening for?

Where? → Where is it happening? Think of location.

## WHY THERE?

What physical and/or human actions have occurred to allow this to happen there?

## WHY CARE?

Which specific SDG does it connect to? What targets need to be met to address the issue? [Use this link to find the specific targets for each SDG](#)

**LET'S PRACTICE SPATIAL SIGNFICANCE!**



# WHAT IS WHERE?

## A 7.1 magnitude earthquake near Raboso, Mexico

Date: September 17, 2020



# WHY THERE?



This is an ongoing issue as Mexico City is on a lake bed which is a soft foundation.

- Mexico is located near a tectonic plate boundary
  - North American Plate & Cocos Plate



- When two plates collide or slip by each other it creates an earthquake



# WHY CARE?



TARGET

11.5



REDUCE THE ADVERSE  
EFFECTS OF NATURAL  
DISASTERS



# CANADA'S "BIG ONE"

- WIW? → Potential earthquake near Vancouver, Canada
- WT? → Located near a plate boundary (Pacific Plate & Juan De Fuca)
- WC? → as discussed

## Cascadia Subduction Zone



The **Cascadia Subduction Zone** is a 1000 km fault that runs from Northern Vancouver Island to Northern California. The fault itself is a boundary between two tectonic plates: the **Juan de Fuca** tectonic plate and the **North American** plate that we live on.