

Ch. 1&2 Vocab

(14-34)

1) Great Circle Route:

An imaginary line that follows the curve of the earth and represents the shortest distance between two points

2) Map Projection: A mathematical formula used to represent the curved surface of the earth

3) Planar Projection: a map created by projecting an image of the Earth onto a geometric plane

4) Cylindrical Projection: a map created by projecting Earth's image onto a cylinder

5) Conic Projection: a map created by projecting an image of Earth onto a cone placed over part of an Earth model

6) Absolute Location: the exact position of a place on the Earth's surface

7) Relative Location: location in relation to other places

8) Elevation: the height of a land surface above the level of the sea

9) Relief: the variation in elevation across an area of Earth's land

10) Thematic Map: a map that emphasizes a single idea or a particular kind of information about an area

11) Global Positioning System (GPS): a navigational system that can determine absolute location by using satellites and receivers on Earth

12) Geographic Information System (GIS): computer programs that process and organize details about places on Earth and integrate those details with satellite images and other pieces of information

13) Remote Sensing: the science of obtaining information about an object or an area from a distance, typically from instruments in aircraft or satellites

- 14) Spatial Perspective: a way of looking at the human and physical patterns on Earth and their relationships to one another
- 15) Site: the specific location of a place, including its physical setting
- 16) Situation: the geographic position of a place in relation to other places or features of a larger region
- 17) Formal Region: a region defined by a common characteristic, such as the production of a product
- 18) Functional Region: a central place and the surrounding territory linked to it
- 19) Perceptual Region: a region defined by popular feelings and images rather than by objective data
- 20) Hydrosphere: the water areas of the Earth, including oceans, lakes, rivers, and other bodies of water
- 21) Lithosphere: uppermost layer of the Earth that includes the crust, continents, and ocean basins
- 22) Atmosphere: a thin layer of gases that surrounds the Earth
- 23) Biosphere: the part of the Earth where life exists
- 24) Continental Shelf: part of a continent that extends out underneath the ocean
- 25) Core: The innermost layer of the Earth is made up of a super-hot but solid inner core and a super-hot liquid outer core
- 26) Mantle: the thick middle layer of the Earth's interior structure consisting of hot rock that is dense but flexible
- 27) Crust: the outer layer of the Earth, a hard rocky shell forming Earth's surface

28) Continental Drift: the theory that the continents were once joined and then slowly drifted apart

29) Plate Tectonics: the term scientists use to describe the activities of continental drift and magma flow, which create many of Earth's physical features

30) Magma: molten rock that is located below Earth's surface

31) Subduction:

32) Accretion: slow process in which an oceanic plate slides under a continental plate, creating debris that can cause continents to grow outward

33) Spreading: the process by which magma wells up between oceanic plates and pushes the plates apart

34) Fold: a bend in layers of rock, sometimes caused by plate movement

35) Fault: a crack or break in Earth's crust

36) Faulting: the process of cracking that occurs when the folded land cannot be bent any further

37) Weathering: chemical or physical processes that break down rocks into smaller pieces

38) Erosion: the movement of weathered rock and material by wind, glaciers, and moving water

39) Glacier: A glacier is a large mass of ice that moves slowly over land

40) Moraine: piles of rocky debris left by melting glaciers

41) Water Cycle: regular movement of Earth's water from ocean to air to ground and back to the ocean

42) Evaporation: the process of converting liquid into vapor, or gas

43) Condensation: the process of excess water vapor changing into liquid water when warm air cools

44) Precipitation: moisture that falls to the Earth as rain, sleet, hail, or snow

45) Desalination: the removal of salt from seawater to make it usable for drinking and farming

46) Groundwater: water located underground within the Earth that supplies wells and springs

47) Aquifer: underground water-bearing layers of porous rock, sand or gravel