My Favorite Place   Name: Jon Volden
15 points
Resources: Ch 1, 2, and Google Earth (the real program/app and not the website)
Tablet/Laptop/Desktop computer. Your phone image does not provide a large enough view while preserving detail and context.

1. Open Google Earth (it is a free download if you don't have it) and search for Eudora, Kansas.
Zoom out a couple of clicks. Your view should show a little bit of Lawrence to the west, then Eudora in the center, and Linwood in the upper right. The most recently available imagery will pop up with the date at the bottom. Notice the elevation changes and latitude/longitude changes given at the bottom of the screen as you move the cursor over the image. The secondary roads look like a grid of squares. Click on the ruler icon (or find it under the Tools Menu), select line, and set the units to measure in miles. Then click on one corner of a square and measure the length of the side to the next corner.

What is the length in miles of one side of a square?   **~1 mile**

Why are the roads lined up like that?

US Public Land Survey - Grids of townships were subdivided by survey into 36 1mi squared areas. Each area is called a section and contains 640 acres.

Click on the ruler icon again, but select path, and keep the units to measure in miles. Click on the Kansas River as it leaves Lawrence and using many intermediate points follow the meanders of the river until you reach the Kansas River just north of Eudora.

What is the length in river miles?

 ~8.6 miles

In the lower left, find the layers menu and check the box for roads. You are adding a layer of lines over the image. Experiment with adding another layer.

What did you find out about this area?

State Road KS10 connects Eudora with Lawerence.
Also, currently clear skies!

2. Search for your favorite place (be specific). My favorite place to live or vacation is **Aviano, Italy**.

The latitude is: **46° 4' 9" N**
The longitude is: **12° 35' 16" E**

Is your favorite place in the low, mid, or high latitudes?

Mid latitudes

What is the most recent image date? **6/25/2017**

What are some typical elevation values at your favorite place? **~400-500 ft**

Describe what you see on the image in terms of natural and cultural features.

The town is sitting at the foot of the Alps, making most roads run along the base of the mountains.
There are irregular farm plots, unlike the square sections shown in Kansas.

Use the historical imagery tool (circle with green arrow) and go back in time to see what this area looked like.

What is the date of that image? **8/30/2002**

What was different about the area in the past?

Very little has changed. Most of the area consists of old buildings with little growth in the past 16 years.

A few areas that have water runoff from the mountain have widened slightly.

3. Explain how Google Earth is both an example of remote sensing and a geographic information system.

As a remote sensing tool, we can survey regions without having to go there. We can compare and contrast how features of those regions change over time; vegetation, waterways, human development.
As a GIS, we can overlay various information and see how they relate to each other. We can also see how they define the region. Different layers could include weather data, roads and highways, water data, and town and city boundaries.