

Definition of Geography

Professor Harland Barrows, (1923)

**"study of human ecology;
adjustment of man to natural
surroundings."**

Geographer Fred Schaefer (1953)

“the science concerned with the formulation of the laws governing the spatial distribution of certain features on the surface of the earth.”

J. O. M. Broek (1965)

**“to understand the earth as the
world of man.”**

**Ariid Holt-Jensen, (1980) defined
geography as**

**“study of variations in phenomena
from place to place.”**

Geographer Yi-Fu Tuan, 1991

**"the study of earth as the home
of people**

Hartshorne 1959:

“...geography is concerned to provide accurate, orderly, and rational description and interpretation of the variable character of the earth’s surface.”

The field of Geography can be divided into two primary areas of study:

1. **Physical Geography.**
2. **Human Geography**

Physical geography is the branch of natural science which deals with the study of processes and patterns in the natural environment such as the atmosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere, and geosphere, as opposed to the cultural or built environment, the domain of human **geography**.

1. *Environmental Geography*
2. *Biogeography*
3. *Climatology*
4. *Geomorphology*
5. *Hydrology*
6. *Oceanography*

Human geography focuses on to understand processes about human populations, settlements, economics, transportation, recreation and tourism, religion, politics, social and cultural traditions, human migration, agriculture, and urbanization.

- 1. Cultural geography**
- 2. Economic geography**
- 3. Health geography**
- 4. Historical geography**
- 5. Political geography**
- 6. Population geography**
- 7. Rural geography**
- 8. Social geography**
- 9. Transport geography**
- 10. Urban geography.**

Essence of Geography

- a) Location
- b) Spatial and distribution of living and non-living things patterns and relations
- c) Regional characteristics of these elements on human life and settlement
- d) The forces that change the earth's features and processes
- e) Preparation of thematic maps for planning and development
- f) Analyses of Satellite images for various purposes.
- g) Preparation and updation of maps for different applications.