

What common geographic features are there? How do they affect us? How do we affect them?

Objective:

- **Describe** common geographic features and **explain** how they might affect the people that encounter them.

Introduction

➔ **Directions:** Examine the image below and respond to the prompts accompanying it.



Thar Khuri.jpg by Flickr is published under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/) license.

1. See
Identify three things you notice in the image.

2. Think
Identify two things you think about the image or the scene shown.

3. Wonder
Write down one question you have about the image

<p>4. If you lived here how would your life be different than it is now?</p>	<p>5. How would you get from place to place?</p>	<p>6. What would you do for fun?</p>
Empty response area for question 4	Empty response area for question 5	Empty response area for question 6

What are geographic features?

Historians *think like geographers* by using their knowledge of **geographic features, their ability to interpret and create maps**, and their historical thinking skills to understand the past and explain it to others.



Think Like a Geographer

Geographic features are naturally occurring landforms, bodies of water, ecosystems, or climates.

Geographic features, along with man-made features make up our **environment**.

Based on the definition provided here, can you identify any geographic features in your community?



Earth from the Apollo 17 spacecraft. Some of the largest geographic features on the planet can be clearly seen even from outer space.

[Image](#) courtesy of Wikimedia and is in the public domain.

Exploring Geographic Features

➔ **Directions:** Using the word bank below, match each image with the correct geographic feature. Then, compare your responses to your partner.

plain	mountain	river	ocean	sea	desert
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Citation 1



Citation 2



Citation 3



Citation 4

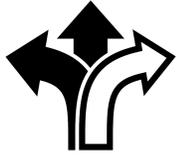


Citation 5



Citation 6

Which of the geographic features above do you live near?



Predict



Think Like a Geographer

➔ **Directions:** Using the [gallery walk posters](#) on the walls of your classroom, write down notes that describe each geographic feature and create a symbol.

	Description	Symbol
Plain		
Mountain		
Desert		

	Description	Symbol
River		
Sea		
Ocean		

What common geographic features are there? How do they affect us? How do we affect them?

Objective:

- **Describe** the impact geographic features have on the lives of the people who encounter them.



Predict



Think Like a Geographer

➔ **Directions:** Using the [text graffiti question cards](#) at your desk, predict the negative (-) and positive (+) impacts of living near each of the different geographic features.



1. Group facilitator passes out question card to everyone at the table.



2. Each person has 90 seconds to write a response on the question card.



3. After 90 seconds, pass your question card to the next person in your group.

Repeat steps 2 and 3 until everyone has had a chance to write on every card.

Now, use the information from the text graffiti activity to complete the chart below independently.

	+	-
	Positive Impacts of Living Near this Feature	Negative Impacts of Living Near this Feature
Plain		

	+	-
	Positive Impacts of Living Near this Feature	Negative Impacts of Living Near this Feature
Mountain		
Desert		
River		

	+ Positive Impacts of Living Near this Feature	- Negative Impacts of Living Near this Feature
Sea		
Ocean		

FA

SQ 2: What common geographic features are there? How do they affect us? What effect do we have on them?

➔ **Directions:** Based on what you have learned, complete the task below.

Part I

Throughout history, geographic features such as deserts, plains, rivers, seas, oceans, and mountains have had impacts on the people who encounter them. Using your knowledge of global history, write a response in which you



Think Like a Geographer

- Describe **one** geographic feature
- Discuss the potential negative and positive impacts of this geographic feature on people who encounter them