

WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY



Geography 5 - World Regional Geography
 Fall, 2009
 Instructor Matt Ebner
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Course Description: Students will study the major countries and regions of the world, studying the environments, people, cities, resources, history, economies, and special problems.

<u>Week</u>		<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>
1	9/2	Introduction; Europe	pp. 55-67
2	9/9	Europe	Ch. 4 (all)
3	9/16	Europe	Ch. 5 (all)
4	9/23	Test #1 – Europe; Former Soviet Union	139-53; 184-86; 191-93
5	9/30	Middle East	199-206; 211-228; Ch. 9
6	10/7	Test #2 –Former Sov. Un. & Mid East	278-79; 286-87
		South Asia	301-310; 313-315
7	10/14	Southeast Asia	Ch. 12 (all)
8	10/21	Test #3 – S. & SE Asia; China	176-77; 355-66; 372-77
9	10/28	Japan/Korea; Australia/New Zealand	Ch. 14; Ch. 16 (all)
		Video Assignment due	
10	11/4	Test #4 – China, Jap/Kor, ANZ; Africa	452-468
11	11/11	Africa	Ch. 18 (all)
12	11/18	Test #5 – Africa; Latin America	524-33
13	11/25	Newspaper Assignment due	Ch. 20 (all)
		Latin America	Ch. 21 (all)
14	12/2	North America	602-606; Ch 23 (all)
15	12/9	North America	Ch. 24 (all)
16	12/16	Final Exam: The Americas	

Required Texts: Hobbs, Joseph, World Regional Geography, 5th or 6th Edition. Brooks Cole Publishing, 2006, 2009.
 Ebner, Matt, Geography 5 Course Notebook, Course

<u>Grading:</u>			
5 Tests	@ 50 points each	=	250
Final Exam		=	100
Assignments		=	70
Attendance		=	25
Classroom Participation		=	5
Total		=	450

Tests: Heavily based on lecture material. You must buy a scantron 883 for each test (available at the bookstore) and a scantron 885 for the final. There are multiple-choice, matching, map, and short-answer photo questions.

Final Exam: The final is not comprehensive; it only covers material after Test #5. You must take it December 16.

Make-Up Policy: There are no make-ups given for the tests. If you miss a test, you will receive a score equal to your lowest score on the other 4 tests. If you take all 5 tests, your lowest score will be raised to match your second lowest score. The score on your final exam will not be replaced.

Assignments: There are two assignments, both based on the idea that world geography can be learned by reading the newspaper and by insightfully watching movies. Instructions are on the pages that follow.

Attendance: Each student begins the semester with 25 points for attendance. If you are absent no more than once, you get all 25 points. With each additional absence you lose 6 points unless it is college-authorized (field trip for another class, for example) or a documented medical emergency. Half-absences (leaving after the exam, for example) are counted as minus 2 points. You are expected to be punctual as tardiness disrupts the class. **After three tardies, each tardy will result in minus 2 points.**

Extra Credit: There is no extra credit planned in this course. If you are absent more than twice, though, you can do an “absence eraser” assignment.

Participation: Participation is worth up to 5 points, based on your participation in the classroom or outside of class (office hours, after class, or through email).

Email: I receive a lot of junk email and I delete many emails without reading them, so please include the following in the subject line of your email: Geo 5, your name, and essence of the email.
GEO 5 – John Smith – Question regarding Test #1

Your Progress: You should keep track of all the points that you earn during the course.

Europe Test	=	_____ /50	Video Assignment	=	_____ /30
Ex S. Un. & M East Test	=	_____ /50	Newspaper Ass.	=	_____ /40
S Asia & SE Asia Test	=	_____ /50			
China, Jap/Kor, ANZ Test	=	_____ /50			
Africa Test	=	_____ /50			
Attendance (keep track of your absences here)		_____	Tardies	=	_____
Final Exam	=	_____ /100			

At any point of the semester, you can determine your current grade by adding the points you have earned, then dividing by the number of points possible up to that day. This will give you a decimal (like .88). Drop the decimal to make the number a percentage (88%) and refer to the chart below to see where you stand.

<u>Final Grades:</u>	A	=	405-450 (90-100%)
	B	=	360-404 (80-89.9%)
	C	=	292-359 (65-79.9%)
	D	=	247-291 (55-64.9%)
	F	=	0-246 (0-54.9%)

Final Grades will follow the breakdown above. That means 404 points earns a B even though it is just one point from an A. There must be a cutoff at some point, so some students barely make a grade while others barely miss it. Do your best in ALL of your work so that you don't fall just short of your goal. Approach this course with serious commitment, with a positive yet humble attitude. You will learn LOTS and will have fun doing so!

Students with Disabilities, including Learning Disabilities

Students with disabilities, including learning disabilities, who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Special Resource Center on campus as soon as possible to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. If you suspect, or are unsure if, you have a learning disability you are strongly encouraged to contact the Special Resource Center on campus as soon as possible for testing, to better ensure any needed accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. If you have a documented or suspected disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me privately to discuss your specific needs.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME for World Regional Geography

Students can identify the salient features of the countries and regions of the world. of world regional geography. (This includes the ability to identify countries and geographical regions on a map.)

COURSE OBJECTIVES - In this World Regional Geography class, students will learn to:

1. Locate all the countries and ecosystems of the world, and synthesize the two. For example, which countries of Africa are in the desert, and which are in the tropical rainforest?
2. Explain the physical processes that shape the patterns on the Earth's surface, such as the mechanisms that create the summer and winter monsoons of South Asia. Discuss the ways that physical systems affect human systems, such as the effect of topography on language distribution in the Middle East.
3. Identify and analyze the ways in which humans have modified the physical environment, such as the effect of agriculture on the Aral Sea of Central Asia
4. Recognize and understand the patterns and networks of economic interdependence, such as the manufacturing patterns in Mexico that are affected by proximity to the USA.
5. Identify and evaluate the distribution and migration patterns of human populations, such as the settlement patterns of Southeast Asia that are affected by volcanic soils, and the emigration of Chinese due to political change.
6. Evaluate the role of religion and language in different societies, such as Islam in the Middle East, Sikhism in India, and the Basque language in Spain.
7. Use geography to help understand the past, like how the environment fostered early civilizations in Mesopotamia, and how history has influenced the current geographic identity of places, like how past events have made Israel such a contentious place today.

CLASSROOM POLICIES & SUGGESTIONS TO MAXIMIZE YOUR CHANCES FOR A GOOD GRADE

1. Attend every class and be on time. If you have to miss, try to attend another section of Geography 5. Ask me if the other class is on the same schedule as your class. My 2 sections of Geography 5 this semester are: MW 130-255; and Th 600-910 pm.
2. Bring your course notebook (with the PowerPoint pictures) to every class. Go through the PowerPoint slide shows on the website (www.elcamino.edu/faculty/mebiner) before we cover a region in class.
3. Before we cover a region, first read the summary at the end of the chapter, then look at all the photos and maps in the chapter and read the captions carefully.
4. Review your notes after class within 24 hours of class time. If you get to class early, review your notes to remind yourself what topic we are on.
5. Label and study the maps from the back of your course notebook. Label all the locations covered in class and also write your notes onto the map. This is easier if you enlarge the map, because you will have more space to write. Kinko's makes huge enlargements (24"x36") for around \$3.
6. Do your work before the last minute. Plan to finish your work at least 24 hours before it is due. Late assignments will result in a lower grade, and the later you turn it in, the greater is the point reduction.
7. During class time you should be focused on Geography. Do not chat. Do not read other materials. Do not eat or drink in class, unless it is something that is totally quiet and odorless. Do not sleep in class. You might feel embarrassed if I have to wake you in front of your classmates. **NO TEXT MESSAGING DURING CLASS!**
8. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in being given a failing grade for the work or for the entire course. Plagiarism is using someone else's work and claiming it as your own. That is unfair and unacceptable. Do your own work; write in your own words. Students are expected to be honest in this class.

Instructor Matt Ebner
Movie Assignment – 30 Points

Watch one of the movies listed below. To help with your selection you can go to www.imdb.com to check out details on any movie, such as plot, actors, and filming location. You can join www.netflix.com for free for 14 days and you will have access to the widest possible selection of DVDs, some of which won't be available in your local video store. They mail the DVDs within 24 hours of your online request.

- Use the write-up sheet to take notes during the film about the geographical topics seen in the movie. You can get a fresh copy from Ebner's website by downloading the syllabus and deleting the unnecessary pages.
- Your write-up must follow the same outline format with bullets (shown in the sample on the following pages) and will probably be at least 2 full pages, single-spaced and font 10. Use phrases, not complete sentences. Do not write paragraphs. Do not write an essay. Do not just write a series of single words.
- If the movie is set in different countries be sure to identify which location you are describing.
- Don't simply write information that you get from a website. A website might help you understand the movie more, but only write about things you see in the movie.
- **If you have a friend in the class you should watch different movies.** This write-up is to be done individually, not with a classmate.
- Your write-up must be typed.
- **Late assignments lose 2 points per weekday.**
- Choose one of the films listed below. Following the title is the setting, year the movie was made, length of movie, and rating on scale of 1-10 (from imdb.com).

	Title	Setting	Year	Length	Rating (1-10)
1.	"Amelie"	(Paris, France)	2001	2:02	8.7
2.	"Australia"	(uh, Australia)	2008	2:45	7.1
3.	"Bride and Prejudice"	(India)	2004	1:47	6.4
4.	"Blood Diamond"	(Sierra Leone)	2006	2:23	8.0
5.	"Bend It Like Beckham"	(England)	2002	1:52	7.5
6.	"City of God" - VERY VIOLENT!	(Brazil)	2002	2:10	8.7
7.	"Color of Paradise" ("Rang-e khoda")	(Iran)	2000	1:30	7.3
8.	"Goodbye Lenin"	(Germany)	2003	2:01	7.8
9.	"Himalaya"	(Nepal)	1999	1:48	7.2
10.	"Hotel Rwanda"	(Rwanda)	2004	2:01	8.5
11.	"The Last King of Scotland"	(Uganda)	2006	2:01	7.8
12.	"Memoirs of a Geisha"	(Japan)	2005	2:25	6.9
13.	"Motorcycle Diaries"	(Chile, Peru, Argentina)	2004	2:08	8.1
14.	"Osama" (not about Osama bin-Laden)	(Afghanistan)	2003	1:23	7.5
15.	"Paradise Now"	(West Bank; Israel)	2005	1:30	7.7
16.	"Travelers and Magicians"	(Bhutan)	2003	1:48	7.4
17.	"Rabbit-Proof Fence"	(Australia)	2002	1:34	7.8
18.	"Whale Rider"	(New Zealand)	2002	1:41	8.0

TAKE NOTES ON THIS SHEET WHILE WATCHING THE MOVIE, BUT YOUR REPORT MUST BE TYPED

1. Title of Movie _____
2. Your rating of the movie on a scale of 1 (the worst) to 10 (the best) _____
3. Setting (What city or region of what country?) _____
4. Approximate year or decade of when the movie takes place (not necessarily when the movie was made)

5. One or two sentence summary of the plot

6. **Physical Geography**
Terrain/Landscape, Natural Hazards

Climate, Natural Vegetation

Water Features, Wildlife
7. **People** (Migration, Population Density, Family Size)

8. **Standard of Living/Economy** (Examples of living standards – wealth, poverty)

9. **Agriculture** (type of farming – crops, livestock, hunting/gathering)

10. **Language** (What language? Dialect of English? Give examples, with meanings in American English)

11. **Culture**

Food, Drink, Drugs

Clothing, Jewelry, Cosmetics, Hairstyles

Dancing, Music, Art

Superstitions, Customs, Rituals, Festivals, Celebrations (don't discuss religion in this part)

Sports/Games/Entertainment

12. **Religion** (Which religion(s)? What signs/examples of religion are in the movie?)

13. **Buildings/Settlement Patterns** (Architecture, Building Material, Type of Roof, Building Size, Colors,
Other City Patterns – markets, plazas, monuments)

14. **Transportation** (Modes of Transportation, Roads)

15. **Political Geography** (Government Influence, Nationalism, Civil War, Cultural Influence on Politics, Refugees)

GOOD SAMPLE WRITE-UP FOR GEOGRAPHY 5 VIDEO ASSIGNMENT

- 1. Title of Movie** _____ Angela's Ashes _____

- 2. Your rating of the movie** on a scale of 1 (the worst) to 10 (the best) _____ 8/10 (very good, but depressing) _____

- 3. Setting** (What city or region of what country?) _____ Limerick, Ireland _____

- 4. Approximate year or decade of when the movie takes place (not necessarily when the movie was made)** _____ 1930s _____

- 5. One or two sentence summary of the plot**
An autobiographical story about growing up in an impoverished Irish city during the Depression.

- 6. Physical Geography**
 - Terrain, Natural Hazards**
Rocky Hills

 - Climate, Natural Vegetation**
Rainy
Grey skies; always overcast
Cold (fire in fireplace for heat)
Green landscape; grassy

 - Water Features, Wildlife**
Shannon River

- 7. People (Migration, Population Density, Family Size)**
 - Men going to London for work
 - "You must go to America"
 - Wanting to migrate to America
 - Large family size; lots of children

- 8. Standard of Living/Economy (Examples of living standards – wealth, poverty)**
 - Poverty
 - Washing baby in a bucket
 - Naked children
 - Hanging laundry in the street
 - Chamber pot, dumping outside on the street
 - Dying young (3 children)
 - Picking coal off the street
 - Outside, shared lavatory
 - Rubber added to soles of old shoes
 - Washing clothes by hand
 - Poor health standards; dying of "consumption"

- 9. Agriculture (type of farming – crops, livestock, hunting/gathering)**
 - Goats
 - Milking Cows

- 10. Language** (What language? Dialect of English? Examples?)
 - Irish English
 - "That's grand"
 - "That takes the bloody biscuit"
 - "Wee boy"
 - "Do what you're bloody told"
 - Latin at funeral

11. Culture

Food, Drink, Drugs

- Guinness beer
- Whiskey
- Steak & potatoes
- Chips (fries)
- Soup

Clothing, Jewelry, Cosmetics, Hairstyles

- Conservatively dressed women – always in dresses
- Very plain clothing, black and white, usually no colors

Dancing, Music, Art

- Learning to do Irish dance

Superstitions, Customs, Rituals, Festivals, Celebrations (don't discuss religion in this part)

- Eclipse a "bad sign", "moon practicing for the end of the world"
- Hearse was a black stagecoach
- Traditional attitudes towards woman's role as child-bearer and housekeeper

Sports/Games/Entertainment

- Soccer in the street

12. Religion (Which religion(s)? What signs/examples of religion are in the movie?)

Catholic

- Shrine to Virgin Mary
- Girl named Margaret Mary
- References to Jesus ("sweet Jesus in heaven")
- Painting of Jesus
- Baby Jesus statue
- First Communion practice
- Confession in church
- Confirmation – "soldiers of God"
- Penny to light a candle
- Limerick, "holiest city in Ireland"
- Reference to Pope Leo XIII
- "Crawl to Lourdes on me bended knees"
- St. Patrick drove the snakes from Ireland
- Sign of the cross
- Statue of Jesus in the bar
- "Taken back by the same angels that had brought her here"

13. Buildings/Settlement Patterns (Architecture, Building Material, Type of Roof, Building Size, Colors, Other City Patterns – markets, plazas, monuments)

- Stone buildings
- Big houses on the edge of town
- Cobblestone streets

14. Transportation (Modes of Transportation, Roads)

- Bus
- Horse cart
- Train
- Bicycles

15. Political Geography (Government Influence, Nationalism, Civil War, Cultural Influence on Politics, Refugees)

- Irish Nationalism - "Eamonn de Valera was the greatest man that ever lived"
- "Glorious IRA"
- Hatred of England and Protestants of Northern Ireland
- "English deserved the bombing after what they did to the Irish for 800 years"

Geography 5
Instructor Matt Ebiner
Newspaper Assignment – 40 points

During this course, read the Los Angeles Times **Section A** (World) and **Section C** (Business) in search of good **newsfeature articles related to World Regional Geography**. You must find one article in **five of the ten regions listed below**. **Newsfeature** articles focus on a story, **not on the news of the previous day**. If the article is about something that happened the day before, do not use it! There is always a newsfeature article in Column 1 of the front page, and if it is about a topic in a foreign country, it might be a good one to use for this assignment. If you go to the store and buy the **Sunday Preview Edition** on Saturday, you will often find several good newsfeature articles. You can print your articles from www.latimes.com. You can access articles through the ECC library database without paying for any of the articles by using your El Camino ID. Once you log on, scroll down and click on **PROQUEST**. From there you can find L.A. Times articles.

Make sure that the article is related to something we covered in class or which is in the book.

Only use articles from Section A (World Section) or B (Business) of the Los Angeles Times. Do not use articles from the Travel Section. Articles must be from September 1, 2009 or later. Do not use articles that focus on war, violence, or terrorism. Most articles on politics, Iraq, or natural disasters are not well-suited for this assignment. The article must be at least 900 words if it is from the Internet; articles clipped from the newspaper must be at least half of a letter sheet of paper, not counting headlines or graphics. Try to find articles about the **people, culture, population, cities, environment, wildlife, migration, economy, industry, history, religion, language, or the country overall**, but remember that it must be related to a topic covered in class or the textbook. Good examples of Los Angeles Times articles are listed below:

- Europe: “The Swiss: United by Diversity”
- Former Soviet Union “Ex-Soviet State (Estonia) Dares to Dream”
- Middle East: “Egypt Plans a New Valley to Rival the Nile”
- South Asia: “In India, a Leader Rises From the Depths” (caste system)
- Southeast Asia: “Perfect Paradise (Thailand) Falls Prey to Runaway Tourism”
- China: “China’s Uprooted Peasants Find Life in City is Difficult”
(People displaced by Three Gorges Dam)
- Japan/Korea “North Korea: A Grim Landscape with a Resilient Populace”
- Australia/New Zealand “Aussies say G’Day to Asians”
- Africa: “Zimbabwe is Losing Rhino War”
- Latin America: “Bolivia Held Hostage by Cocaine”

You will turn in:

1. A total of 5 articles; make sure each article is from a different region (no more than one article from Mid East, or China...). Use a highlighter on the article to identify the part of the article which is most related to class or the text (it might be just a sentence or two of the article).
2. A 2-3 paragraph (minimum 200 words), **typed** summary of each article with the article neatly attached. Your summary must **relate the information to what we covered in class and/or what the text says**. If you refer to the text, make sure you give the page number. Paste the article to paper or carefully fold it. You can print your articles off of the internet. Put all your writing, articles, and map **in a flat folder (not 3-ring binder) or staple it all together**.
3. **A world map** labeled with each important place or area mentioned in the articles. Use the map attached to the syllabus or download one from Ebiner’s website.
4. Compile everything in this order: Write-up #1, Article #1, Write-up #2, Article #2....Write-Up #5, Article #5, World Map.
5. On the next page you will see a good sample write-up in the **required format** and how to identify the article by title. Remember that the article must be at least 900 words and the summary must be at least 200 words. You must list the number of words in the article and summary right after the article title. To get a word count when you are using Microsoft Word you can highlight your summary, then go to Tools, then Word Count. Your Word Count must only count the words in the summary, not in the title, date, and heading. If you clip the article from the newspaper you do not have to list the number of words in the article.

Grading Rationale (8 points possible for each article):

- Quality of article (4 = excellent; 3 = good; 2 = fair; 1 = poor; 0 = inappropriate)
- Summary (3 = excellent; 2 = fairly good; 1 = fair; 0 = poor or missing)
- Map Labeling (1 = accurately labeled; 0 = not labeled or inaccurate)
- Bonus +½ point for each article clipped from the LA Times newspaper (rather than online)
- Improper Format -2 points for not following the required format listed above (#5) and on the following page
- Late Penalty -3 points every day that it is late

Good sample write-up for Newspaper Assignment

Article #3 – Southeast Asia

“From Ruins to Ruined; Myanmar’s regime is obliterating a cultural treasure as it `rebuilds' ancient temples to bring in tourists. Experts are aghast -- and uninvited ”, Los Angeles Times, September 7, 2006. Article = 1913 words; Summary = 343 words

In class we learned that the ancient Burmese capital of Bagan (Pagan) is one of the great historical sites of the world, with over 4000 temples in a small area “the size of Santa Monica”. The article compares Bagan’s grandeur with that of Angkor in Cambodia, another one of the great ancient places discussed during the class. This article discusses the unfortunate changes occurring at Pagan, and how the military government has been careless in rebuilding temples and allowing inappropriate tourist development in the archeological zone.

As mentioned in class, the article states that “influence of the outside world is minimal” in Myanmar, with few vehicles in Pagan other than horse-drawn carts and bicycles. This contrasts with the current attempts to turn the city into a sort of archeological Disneyland, with a new resort and golf course on the outskirts along with a 154’-tall tower to allow tourists to watch the sunset over the temple-studded plain.

We also learned in class that Myanmar is a Buddhist country, and that Buddhism is derived from Hinduism. Buddhists believe in reincarnation and karma (pg. 288), where good deeds are rewarded in the next life. The article discusses how wealthy Burmese Buddhists have been contributing to the reconstruction of temples as a means of improving their karma, but the new temples are built atop the old ones with no concern for the original design, and “completely obliterating any historical record” of what was there. The ancient structures are not being restored, but are being replaced according to the commands of the authoritarian regime. Government archeologists hold no sway in how the restoration goes. Untrained workers cover the old temple walls with plaster, completely covering the detail of the original walls, statues are removed and cheaper materials used in the replacements.

The article states that until 1990, “Pagan was one of the best preserved sites and cultural landscapes in Asia...but is (now) becoming a Disneyland, and a very bad one.” Professor Ebner is thankful and fortunate to have visited the site in 1988 before the ill-conceived project began.

Article #1 - Location _____

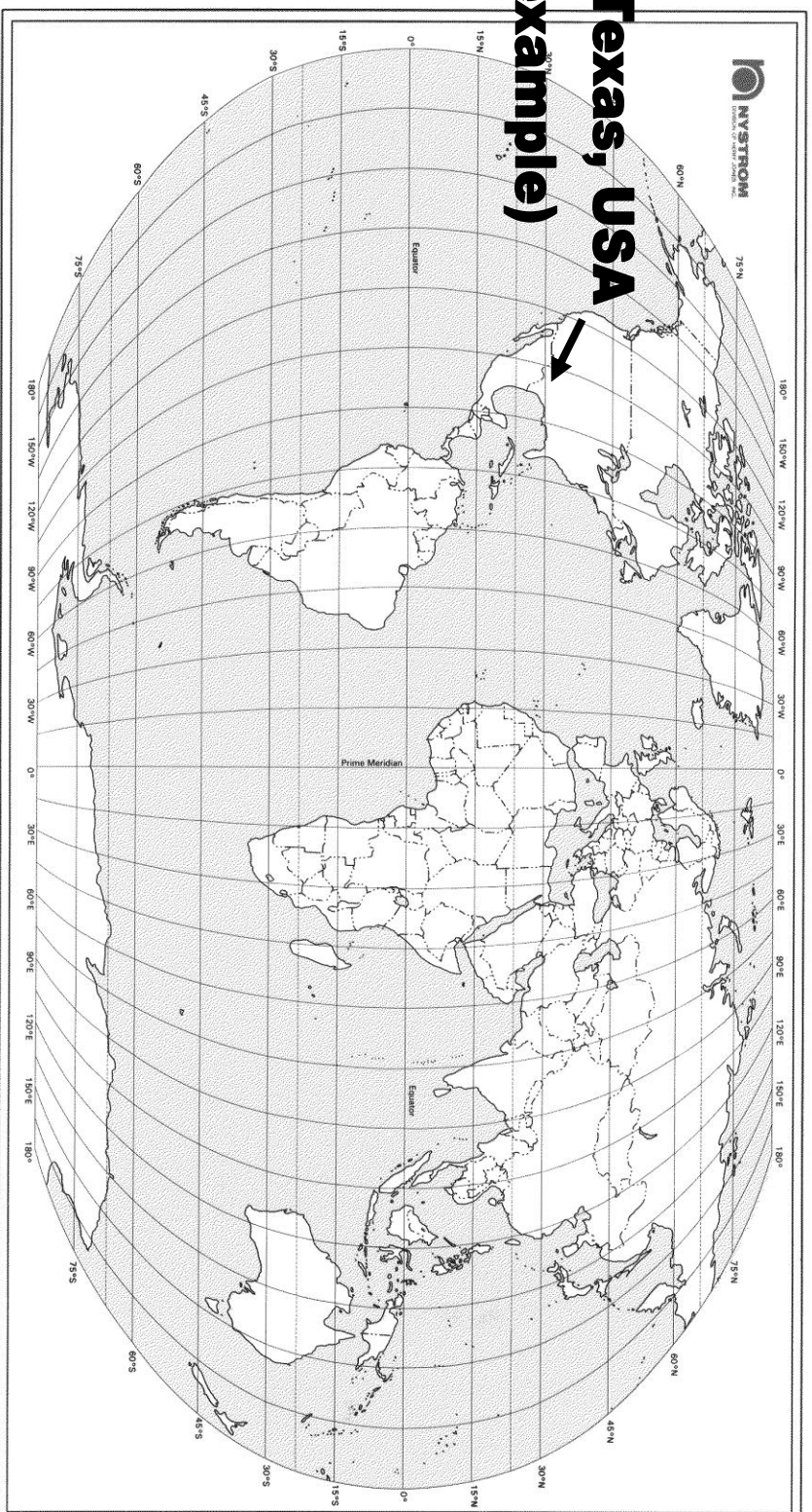
Article #2 - Location _____

Article #3 - Location _____

Article #4 - Location _____

Article #5 - Location _____

**#1 - Texas, USA
(example)**



On the map label the locations of your 5 articles

With a point or arrow, article number, and name of the location.