

Pre-AP World Geography Summer Reading Assignment

REQUIRED

READING: AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS by Jules Verne

There are several different options:

<u>ISBN #s</u>	<u>Publisher</u>
9781587264931	Ann Arbor Media Group
9780140449068	Penguin Group
9780451529770	Penguin Group
9780192837783	Oxford University Press

Please make sure you do not choose a children's picture book or Classic's Illustrated version.

There are also online versions available for free at the following websites:

<http://www.gutenberg.org/etext/103>

<http://www.literature.org/authors/verne-jules/eighty/>

<http://jv.gilead.org.il/pg/80day/>

PURPOSE: To introduce 8th grade students moving into 9th grade Pre-AP World Geography to the basic tool of Geographers, the five themes of Geography, which include, location, place, region, human-environment interaction, and movement.

ASSIGNMENT: The five themes of Geography are found in every book you read. It is the setting of the story. In this assignment, setting will be analyzed and applied to the five themes of Geography (please see the last page for a complete explanation to help you with this project). This summer you are expected to read the book AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS paying attention to the five themes of Geography. As you read the book take notes about what you are reading and relate the information to the Five Themes of Geography. This book has been made into two movies that do not cover the same information or detail in the book. You cannot be successful in this assignment by watching the movie. The first week of school you may expect to receive an assignment relating to the reading and a quiz over the reading is also possible.

THE FIVE THEMES OF WORLD GEOGRAPHY

The **FIVE THEMES OF GEOGRAPHY** make-up the basic tools of a geographer and define the location, place, region, human-environment interaction, and movement for a community (which can be a handful of people or a large megalopolis).

1. **LOCATION (absolute and relative):** Absolute location pinpoints an exact location on the earth while relative location describes a location in terms of what is nearby:
 - a. The absolute location of Cedar Park, Texas is 30°30'24"N 97°49'49"W.

- b. The relative location describes Cedar Park as a medium-sized city between Leander, and Austin, Texas.
2. **PLACE:** To describe PLACE you must answer the question, “What is it like?” Is the story, in this case, set in hills, mountains, by a lake or an ocean? Is there running water, inside plumbing, technology? Are the streets paved and maintained? What modes of transportation are being used?
3. **Region:** To define REGION you will be making comparisons between places. Examples include:
 - a. The climate of the Northwestern Region of the United States varies greatly from that of the Northeastern due to their locations along the lines of latitude.
 - b. London and Washington, DC are both significant politically though they vary in size, population density and form of government.
 - c. Regions may be formal, functional, or perceptual.
 - i. Formal: Formal regions can be defined by measures of population, per capita income, ethnic background, crop production, population density and distribution, or industrial production, or by mapping physical characteristics such as temperature, rainfall, growing season, and average date of first and last frost.
 - ii. Functional: Functional regions are organized around a place or focal point with the surrounding areas by transportation systems, communication systems, or other economic association involving such activities as manufacturing and retail trading. For example, the Bureau of Census defines a typical functional region as a metropolitan area, Cedar Park and Austin make up a functional region.
 - iii. Perceptual: Perceptual regions are based on ideas rather than geographic markers. The states found in the Mid-West vary and may include Nebraska, Indiana, and Ohio depending on a person’s perspective.
4. **Human-Environment Interaction:** This theme explores how people relate to, use, build up or modify their environment to live successfully (which, in some cases means simply to survive). For example:
 - a. How do the people of Nepal farm the Himalayas?
 - b. Why does Oregon produce wine-producing grapes of the same quality as France?
 - c. How do Inuit’s of Alaska stay warm in igloos?
5. **Movement:** Movement asks how goods, services, and information are moved within a culture and between cultures.
 - a. Are there telephones, televisions, or do the people just tell a Mom to communicate?
 - b. Is there a pony express to move the mail?
 - c. How do the people trade food, clothing, etc.?

If there are any questions please contact the Pre-AP World Geography teacher at the campus you will be attending.