

Persistent  
Past

WELCOME TO  
**ALBERTA**  
WILD ROSE COUNTRY



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***ENJOY!***

To some people, geography may seem like just another random thing to learn in this world, but it is actually so much more. There are 5 themes that geographers think about when they talk about geography.

## 1. LOCATION

## 3. HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

## 5. REGIONS

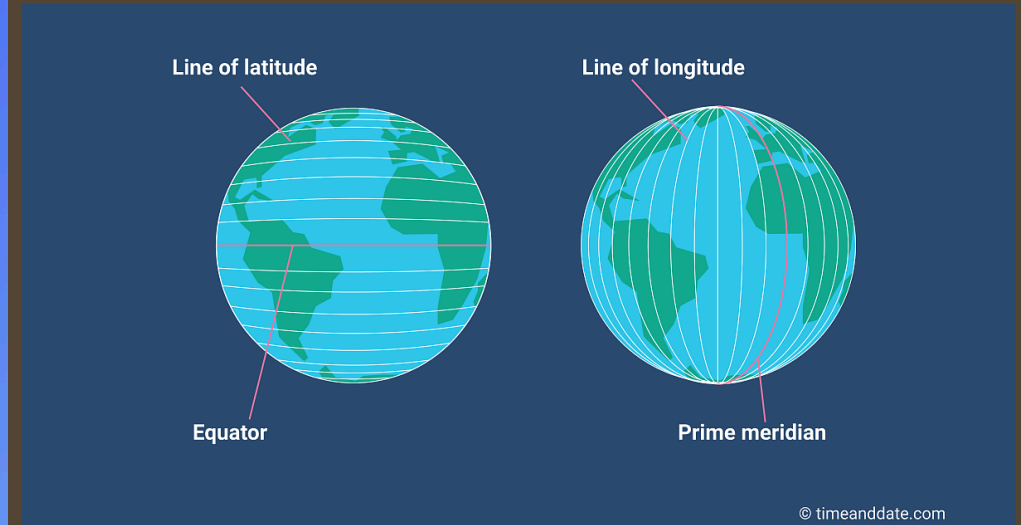


## 2. PLACE

## 4. MOVEMENT

These themes are key to helping geographers understand geography and answering this keystone.





**LOCATION:** There are two different types of location. Absolute and Relative. Absolute location is the exact location of a person, place, or thing on Earth. This is usually represented by either Longitude and Latitude, street addresses, GPS, or map coordinates. Latitudes are horizontal lines that measure distance north or south of the equator. Longitudes are vertical lines that measure east or west of the meridian in Greenwich, England. Relative location is the position of a place in relation to another place and uses descriptions to identify places on the earth. Some examples are landmarks, direction, time, and distance. I chose a photo of Three Valley Gap as my Location representation because I think that Three Valley Gap is a pretty distinct and unique landmark.

**PLACE:** Place is a description of the characteristics that make a certain location distinct. There are two different aspects to place; Physical characteristics and Cultural characteristics. Physical characteristics can include landforms, flora, fauna, climate, and resources. Cultural characteristics can include everyday life, land use, and political ideologies. I chose Larch Valley Lake (Minnestimma Lake) to represent place because I thought it represented the landforms section of Physical characteristics very

well and was a unique photo I had to show.

## PLACE: UNIQUE



## INTERACTION: SOURCE



**HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION:** Human-Environment Interaction demonstrates relationships within place. Human-Environment Interaction explores the human use and modifications of the environment. Some examples are bridges, dams, mining, or any structures built by humans. When it comes to Human-Environment Interaction, there is usually one of three traits at play. Humans adapt to the environment, humans modify the environment, or humans depend on the environment. That is the meaning of Human-Environment Interaction. I chose Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump as my representative image for Human-Environment Interaction because I think that Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump is a great example of humans both depending on the environment and modifying it too.



**MOVEMENT:** Movement is the travel of people, goods, or ideas from one location to another's. Some examples of people are planes, cars, and running, because these all get us where we want to go. Some examples of products are trains, trucks, and boats, because they all carry products to the desired location. Some examples of ideas are mail, the computer, and talking, because they all spread ideas. I chose a train for my photo because I intended it to show that this was used to move products and people, as well as ideas sometimes.



# REGIONS: BORDERS



**REGIONS:** There are three different types of regions. Formal regions, functional regions, and vernacular regions.

Formal regions are defined by governmental boundaries and borders, functional regions are defined by a purpose or function, and vernacular regions are defined loosely by peoples perception. I chose this photo because I thought it well-represented formal regions as in the border between Alberta and BC.

# **“What made and makes the West?”**

This question represents our second keystone. The following pages are meant to demonstrate the answer to this question in relation to the driving question (“How has the geography of the West shaped who we are?”).





# The Last Spike





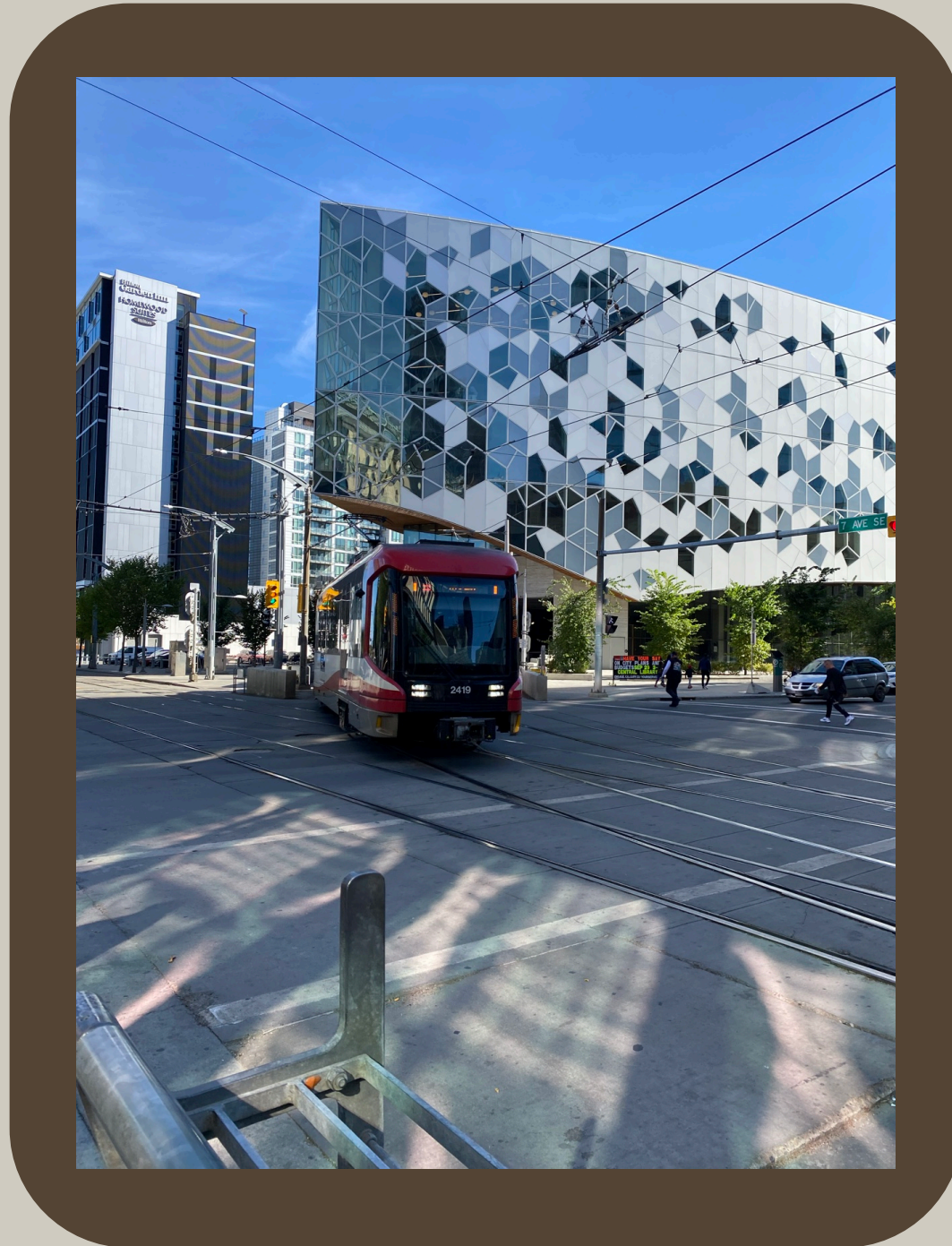
# Reflection 1: Last Spike Photo

This photo shows geography through the movement theme of geography. The train tracks show how ideas, people, and products were all carried through this area and that the last spike driven here symbolizes a dream come true. These rails were used so often and are still being used today. This photo shows how the physical environment was depended on and shaped how we built the railway and where.

This railway then shaped a lot of the West and the people that live there. You could even say it shaped some of the decisions made politically. For example, one of the reasons BC joined Canada was because of the railway and how it would benefit them. This all leads back to the land.

An easy connection to this photo could be that I visited this place, but a deeper connection could be that I enjoy taking nature photos and the geography in this photo just makes me so happy. This is probably one of my favourite photos from the trip and I think these are the types of photos I want to continue to take in the future.

## Photo 2: Downtown Calgary





## Reflection 2: Downtown Calgary

This photo shows the movement theme of geography. It's meant to demonstrate how, as in the last photo, trains are still being used and have been used lots in the past. The CPR was a key part in shaping the west into what it is now, and making us who we are today. This is just one example of how important transportation is in our daily lives. The geography of Calgary was modified to suit us, which aligns with the Human-Environment Interaction theme of geography.

Calgary was once a stick in the mud town I'm sure. Overtime it evolved into the bustling, thriving city it is today. Just the views alone from the Calgary tower can be enough to shock anyone. This place has had lots of past, and now it's perfect.

To me, this photo reminds me of engineering class and Destination Imagination because it takes a long time to build and finalize ideas into a creation. I learned that through those experiences, and what this photo reminded me of is that this didn't all just appear one day. People had to plan it and attempt to build it and revise it and get all the materials and build it. It just goes to show how much work goes into everything we take for granted.

## Photo 3: Calgary Zoo





## Reflection 3: Calgary Zoo

I could probably make multiple connections to the different themes of geography, but I wanted to make a more interesting connection. I believe that this photo relates to Human-Environment interaction because us humans depend on animals to get food and also income.

One reason zoos exist is to show people the animals of the world, but an underlying theme is profit. Without these animals, there would be way less profit and money-making. Another reason zoos are created is to protect endangered species, and that has influenced laws against hunting and selling animals.

My personal connection to this photo is a cool story. When we were at the zoo, I nodded my head to the camel, and a few seconds later, he would wink and nod his head a bit. This would happen every time I did it. The "Cam" connection brought us together. (Cameron Lewis=Cam L=Camel)

## Photo 4: Frank Slide





## Reflection 4: Frank Slide

I think this represents Human-Environment Interaction because humans depended on the environment, interacted with it, and then the mountain caved in and killed lots of people, all because humans depended too much on the environment and weren't careful.

The Frank Slide was one of Canada's biggest national disasters, and yet life still continues to function to this day. They still respect and honour this by making it illegal to take rocks (makes sense, although some people didn't follow that rule).

I visited the Hope Slide as well, and both natural disasters were a result of tectonic plates. The Hope Slide is the worst natural disaster in BC, and the Frank Slide is the worst natural disaster for Alberta.

## Photo 5: Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump World Heritage Site





## Reflection 5: Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump World Heritage Site

I can connect this to Human-Environment Interaction. The First Peoples depended on the physical features of the buffalo jump to kill the buffalo. If it was flat, I don't think it would have been as effective. They also depended on the buffalo themselves. They barely wasted the resources they gained unless they didn't need anything. There was a purpose for everything. The First Peoples depended on the land surrounding the buffalo jump as well. If it had been very mountainous instead of plains-y, I doubt their strategy/hunting ritual would have worked as well or maybe not even at all.

The Buffalo Jump has lots of history, and it is now a well-known place in Alberta. The Buffalo Jump is a place that has lots of rules and guidelines so that you do not disrupt this location of historical events.

The buffalo jump reminds me how I'm able to just walk down to the supermarket to get food. They had to plan out this whole thing, while the only thing I have to plan out is how much money I have to bring and how much time it'll take. I'm sure it brought people closer together to hunt the buffalo together, but I'm happy with where I am, who I am, and for the sake of my answer to the driving question, when I am.

## Photo 6: Cave and Basin National Historic Site





## Reflection 6: Cave and Basin National Historic Site

If I showed you this photo, you probably wouldn't know what it's of. This may be a bit of a *stretch* but I think it's because there's nothing in the world like Cave & Basin. I would say Cave & Basin is Place because of its unique geological characteristics and qualities. The heat generated from the chemical pool were great to support hot springs, and that's exactly what they did.

Cave & Basin used to be a hotel, and now it's hot springs. They have continued to make money. Cave & Basin is a cool place to visit. (Not much to say about it)

I really liked how at Cave & Basin, the gold miner roleplayed as one of the famous people that established/discovered Cave & Basin. I can relate to this because back at one of my elementary schools, I had to dress up as a famous person, act like them, and tell people about "myself". Another more recent thing happened at Seycove, when we did a tableau hall of The Outsiders. It went similarly, with us having to act out and freeze in the chosen position of the character in the book.

## Photo 7: Glacier Skywalk and Columbia Icefield





# Reflection 7: Glacier Skywalk and Columbia Icefield

I'd say that Location is a good representer for the Columbia Icefields. Relative location to be perfectly imprecise. The Columbia Icefields have dropped and receded over time, but it is still the same place with Relative location. The Glacier Skywalk, however, would be Human-Environment Interaction in my mind (**BIG stretch**). The owners of the Glacier skywalk depended on the geography of the side of the road to create a tourist attraction that would entertain lots of people.

The Glaciers have been a vocal point for many years. With glaciers melting and receding, it's become a problem. The Icefields rack up a lot of money with the skywalk included. Altogether, this is a major investment for the company.

My connection is a connection from somewhere else on the trip. On one of the hikes, I picked up a sharp-ish rock of sorts. When we were on the Icefields, I picked up a big chunk of ice. I then carved this ice into a raindrop, which I was very proud of. A call-out goes to the Columbia Icefields gift shop people. I was vibing in the store when "Never Gonna Give You Up" came on, so, being the choir kid I am, I started singing along. One of the gift shop employees came up to me and told me that I could have a 20% off on whatever I bought, but because I had become poor, I didn't end up buying anything. Later on when we were outside waiting for people to finish buying and going to the washroom, one of the employees came out with a icecrawler keychain and handed it to me. Apparently the manager had said that I was either "lifting the vibe" or "upholding the vibe" in the store, and so she gave me a free keychain.

## Photo 8: Golden Skybridge





## Reflection 8: Golden Skybridge

I'd like to think that the Golden Skybridge represents Physical Characteristics of Place because I believe that it's a very unique place and took lots of years of planning to create. It has its own natural beauties, and adventure too. Ropes courses, zip lining, playground, it's got a lot of cool things.

The Golden Skybridge is an amazing place to be. It's full of things for everyone, and you can meet lots of different people there. The design has been perfected and has gone through multiple years of work, having only opened recently.

A lot of people were nervous about going on the Skybridge, but I was very confident (and the first one across). It reminded me of the Lynn Canyon Suspension bridge, so I wasn't afraid at all, even though I'm pretty sure it was at least triple the height. I managed to take a bunch of cool photos and was even brave enough to jump on and sway the bridge (to the dismay of my classmates).

# **Bonus Activities!**

**Extra Activities  
from the Trip**



## **Ghost Town Photo: “Sheriff’s Office Shenanigans”**



**This photo was taken in front of the sheriff’s office at the Three Valley Gap ghost town. The task was to take a selfie somewhere in the ghost town and, as you can see, I took a very flattering photo of myself in front of the sheriff. He was not impressed.**

## **Ghost Town Video: “Murder the Children on Tuesdays”**



**This film was produced by Keenan, Christian, and me, Cameron. This was meant to be a horror movie, but if anything, it was more of a comedy. We used different shots and angles to convey stress and tension although we ended up running low on time so we couldn't put in our best work.**

## **Calgary Zoo Animal Video: “Palace Cats”**

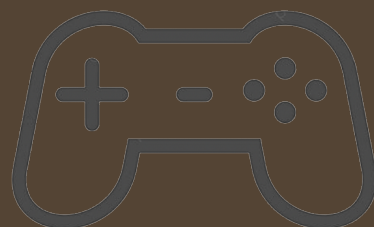


**The Calgary Zoo is a wonderful place full of amazing and unique creatures. The task was to record a video on an animal of your choice and share facts about it. I chose the Palla's Cat, which I called the "Palace Cat" and made a complete mini video documentary on it. I chose the Palla's Cat because I'm a cat person all the way and I thought it looked adorable.**



**Hi, my name is  
Cameron.**

**I really like reading  
and playing video  
games.**



**I'm currently in  
Grade 9 at Seycove.**

**I like singing and music  
and I create my own  
music as well.**



**I wrote this eBook. I put of time and effort into  
it and I hope you enjoyed it.**