

VALUES OF TEACHING GEOGRAPHY

We find that knowledge of geography is important in understanding and acquiring the knowledge of various social sciences. Thus we find that geography occupies an important place in various fields of life. Thereby geography occupies an important place in primary, secondary & higher education. A knowledge of geography helps us in acquiring the knowledge about cultural and intellectual life of a particular country and in this way it becomes easier to carry out a proper study of the cultural life of whole world.

The knowledge of geography also helps a student in developing his power of imagination and also encourages him to find out cause and effect of various phenomenon. When a student of geography learns about the mountains, rivers, forest etc., then an image of all these elements is focused before him.

Geographical factors also influence the intellectual life of a country so we can say that geography has an intellectual importance. In the words of fairgrieve, "The real value of geography lies in the fact it helps man to place himself in the world to learn his true position & duties."

- **Economic Values**

Geography has its economic importance as well. Knowledge of geography helps us to identify about various natural resources of a country or a region in a country. Such a knowledge can be used for the economic progress of a country or a region. We flourish in the world only if we have economic prosperity.

- **Social Values**

A knowledge of geography helps a student in developing a proper social outlook which develops a feeling of brotherhood for the nationals of other countries & makes a student broadminded. Ultimately he no more remains self-centred and he develops a feeling of world citizenship. Thus a knowledge of geography has a social prominence. Moreover geography lays the emphasis of rural/urban/regional planning and minimises the regional differentiation.

- **Values for earning a livelihood**

We spend a major part of our life in earning our livelihood & the knowledge of geography can be helpful to us to utilize our leisure time in a beneficial way. It ensures us to identify, utilise, conserve and create resources for human welfare.

- **Value for Natural Curiosity** We have a natural curiosity to know more about the life style of people in other lands and countries. The knowledge of geography helps to satisfy this natural curiosity and also throws light on the various factors that influence their varied life styles and the use of technology which have changed their quality of life.

- **Cultural values**

Geography develop a feeling of patriotism, love for nature and capacity to understand & appreciate the natural beauty, physical forces and such other things, imbibe the ideals of world citizenship, universal brotherhood, co-operation and sympathetic outlook for others, assess the cultural values in the light of values of land and the man and appreciate the adjustment of human life according to the geographical circumstances.

- **Intellectual Values**

Geography develops the power of observation, the power of thinking, reasoning, memory & power of imagination, ability to draw conclusion, to generalise and develop scientific attitude and also to develop the ability to draw valid conclusion & interdependent thinking in the skills of reading map & globes, drawing & measuring skills and also in using & manipulating geographical instruments.

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