

Exercise walk-through

1.4

Spatial Concepts

AP Human Geography

Describe location precisely

Absolute location

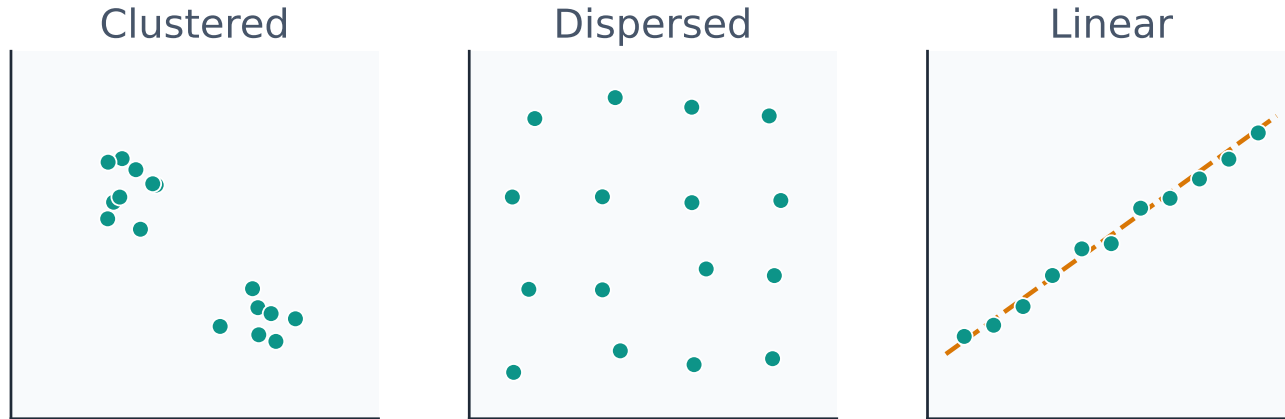
A coordinate or address identifies a place within a reference system.

Relative location

“North of the river” or “near the station” relates a place to other features.

Space concerns arrangement and relationships; place also includes characteristics and meanings.

Read a pattern before explaining it



Describe arrangement; investigate causes separately.

Clustered, dispersed and linear are descriptions of arrangement. A pattern alone does not establish its cause.

Distance can be measured differently

Absolute distance

A trip covers 20 km along the same route before and after a new service.

Relative distance

The trip takes 40 minutes before the service and 20 minutes after it.
Travel time halves.

This original example illustrates space–time compression: improved connection changes experienced distance, not the route's kilometres.

Your turn: explain a flow

Original practice — attempt before the check

In the fictional 20 km travel example, what changes and what stays the same? Explain how the service could affect interaction, and state one reason the benefit might vary between people.

Check: distance and interaction

- 1 Absolute distance remains 20 km; travel time falls from 40 to 20 minutes.
- 2 Lower travel time could make journeys easier, increasing interaction for people who can use the service.
- 3 Cost, route access and service schedules may limit the benefit. Faster travel does not prove equal access.

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 State the difference between absolute and relative location. [2]

2.2 Explain what distance decay means. [2]

Exercises 2.1-2.2

2.1 State the difference between absolute and relative location. [2]

2.1

- absolute = exact coordinates/address; relative = position described in relation to other places
-

2.2 Explain what distance decay means. [2]

2.2

- the interaction between two places decreases as the distance between them increases

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 A shop has many customers nearby and very few far away.

(a) Name the concept this illustrates.

[1]

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[1]

(a)

- distance decay

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 A shop has many customers nearby and very few far away.

(b) State how cheap fast delivery could weaken this effect.

[1]

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 A shop has many customers nearby and very few far away.

(b) State how cheap fast delivery could weaken this effect.

[1]

(b)

- it shrinks the effect of distance (time-space compression), so distant customers still buy

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 Describing a town as 'two hours north of the capital' gives its

[1]

☐

A absolute location

B relative location

C density

D projection

3.2 Video calls letting teams in different countries work together in real time is an example of

[1]

☐

A distance decay

B time-space compression

C environmental determinism

D a functional region

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 Describing a town as 'two hours north of the capital' gives its

[1]

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- A absolute location
- B relative location
- C density
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3.1 B

- position relative to another place is relative location

3.2 Video calls letting teams in different countries work together in real time is an example of

[1]

☐

- A distance decay
- B time-space compression
- C environmental determinism
- D a functional region

3.2 B

- technology shrinking the effect of distance is time-space compression

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 Houses in one area are evenly spaced in a grid; in another they are tightly clustered.

(a) Which term describes the grid arrangement – density, concentration, or pattern? [1]

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(a)

- pattern

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 Houses in one area are evenly spaced in a grid; in another they are tightly clustered.

(b) Describe the concentration of the clustered houses.

[1]

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 Houses in one area are evenly spaced in a grid; in another they are tightly clustered.

(b) Describe the concentration of the clustered houses. [1]

(b)

- clustered / concentrated (rather than dispersed)