

“Teaching Geography”

(Chapters 1 & 2)

“One Perspective”

&

“Two Blades of a Scissors”

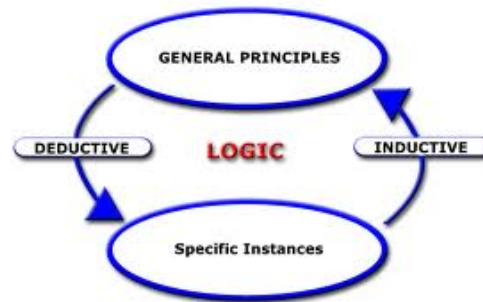
Why do we study Geography?

“To find out why
something we know “for sure” here
is wrong over there
and why
something that works for someone else
where they are
won’t necessarily work for us here”

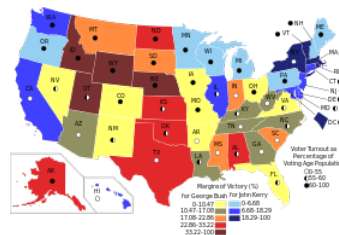
3 main ideas

1. The importance of “Where”

2. Teaching Geography inductively rather than deductively



3. Beware of the “Misleading-Map-Detector”



The Geographical Scissors



REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY

many topics

one area

reference
maps



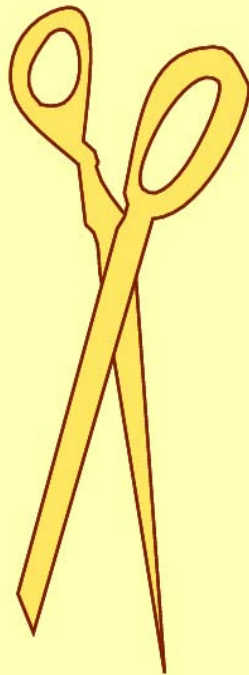
TOPICAL GEOGRAPHY

one topic

many areas

thematic
maps

The Geographical Scissors - 1



Reference maps

use a variety of symbols
to show how different things
occur together in an area

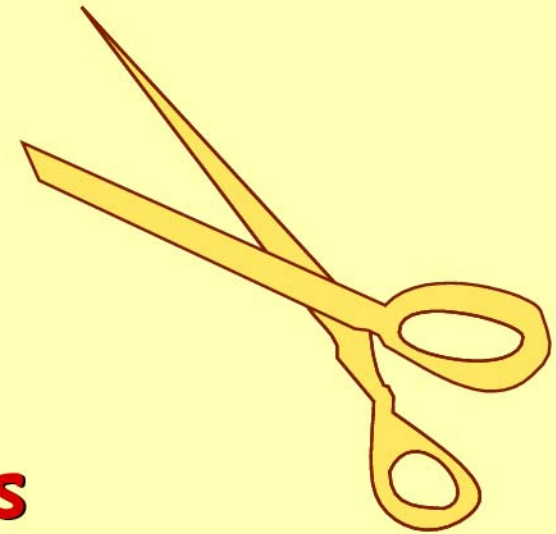
Thematic maps

use a few conventional symbols
to show how one specific thing
is arranged in an area

The Geographical Scissors - 2

Reference maps

show how information
from many thematic maps
fits together in one area

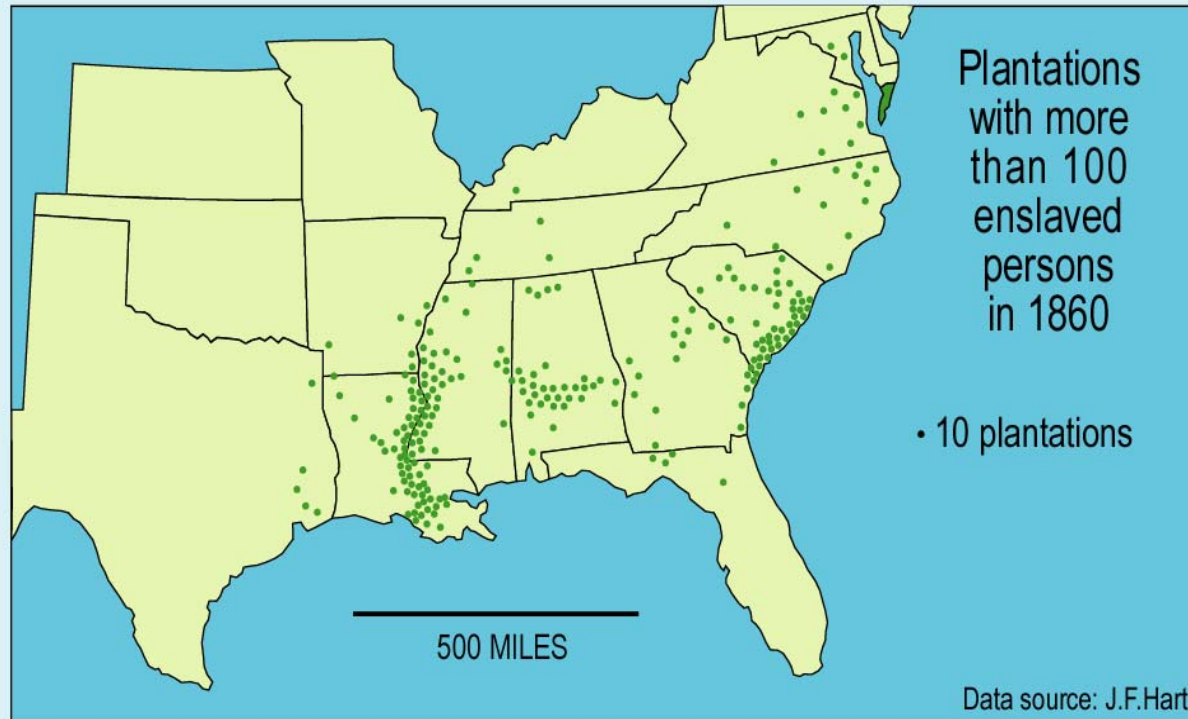


Thematic maps

put some information
from a reference map
into wider perspective

Thematic Map

This kind of map uses a few conventional symbols (e.g. dots) to show the pattern of one thing, usually in a large area.



Conventional Thematic Map Symbols

SYMBOLS

area shading

choropleth

dots

flowlines

isolines

pictorial

scaled
(e.g. circles)

OFTEN USED TO SHOW

geology, vegetation, race, language

population density, income, education

crops, population, religions, businesses

migration, trade, ocean currents

temperature, rainfall, elevation

architecture, monuments, park views

city population, mine production, GNP

Tactics for Using Both Blades of the Geographical Scissors

A good geography teacher uses a number of different tactics to help students use both blades of the geographical scissors.

What are some of them?

Tactics for Using Both Blades of the Geographical Scissors

- ✂ Readings about one, questions about the other
- ✂ Specific place in room for each perspective
- ✂ Prop such as book, flag, hat, etc.
- ✂ Different media or visual-aid design
- ✂ Roles assigned to different students
- ✂ Field trips, homework to complement in-class
- ✂ Test question from each perspective