

# GEOGRAPHY MODULE



DAY 3:  
ASSESSMENT —  
WHAT IS THE IDEAL SITE  
AND SITUATION?

# GEOGRAPHY MODULE OVERVIEW

## SKILL FOCUS

**Map and Data Analysis; Scale Analysis**

## CONTENT

**Site and Situation**

### What is the Site and Situation of Korea?

DAY 1

#### CLASS ACTIVITY

##### **Understanding the Concepts of Site and Situation**

The module begins with an overview and introduction to the concepts of site and situation. Students then analyze the geography of Korea through a series of documents. The analysis of the documents leads students to be able to evaluate the site and situation of Korea. Data analysis skills are addressed through a guided site and situation document analysis activity.

#### CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING

**Exit Ticket:** Students evaluate which is more important: site or situation.

### How Can Changing the Scale Change Perceptions of Site and Situation?

DAY 2

#### CLASS ACTIVITY

##### **Examining the Impact of Changes of Scale**

Students will analyze how changing the scale from the national level to local or global levels impacts site and situation, and will answer the essential question: How can changing the scale change perceptions of site and situation?

#### CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING

**Exit Ticket:** Students use their knowledge of site and situation to describe places at different scales.

### Assessment

DAY 3

#### **Ideal Place Characteristics**

Now that students have explored site and situation at a variety of scales, students will craft their own criteria for an "ideal" site and situation.

# GEOGRAPHY MODULE SOURCES

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# DAY 3

BASED ON A 60-MINUTE CLASS

## What is the Ideal Site and Situation?

### OVERVIEW

Now that students have explored site and situation at a variety of scales, students will craft their own criteria for an “ideal” site and situation.

#### **MATERIALS NEEDED:**

- ▶ Activity 1 Handout: Ideal Site and Situation Characteristics: An Examination of South Korea (p. 146)
- ▶ Activity 2 Handout: Characteristics of My Ideal Country (p. 147)

# SEQUENCE OF INSTRUCTION

## ACTIVITY 1 OF 2: EXAMINATION OF SOUTH KOREA

### WARM UP/INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

- ▶ Students examine some of the site and situation characteristics of South Korea using the Handout on Ideal Site and Situation Characteristics.
- ▶ Students reflect on the characteristics by answering both questions on the handout.

## CLASS ACTIVITY 2 OF 2: DEVELOPING YOUR IDEAL

### CLASS ACTIVITY (45 MINUTES)

- ▶ Have students reflect individually on what they see as the ideal site and situation characteristics of a country, using the Handout on Characteristics of My Ideal Country.
- ▶ Students should narrow their list down to the three characteristics upon which they want to focus, justifying the importance of each one. Be sure to challenge students to be as detailed as possible in their justifications.
- ▶ After completing their three characteristics, students then consider the impact that changing the scale to the city level would have on their ideal characteristics.

### TEACHER NOTES

Students may find it challenging to adjust the scale and fully consider its impact. For example, at the country level it may be seen as positive to be part of larger international political organizations and establish relationships with other countries, but on the city scale that would not typically be the role of an individual city. Instead, the focus would be more on the function of the city in the context of the country as a whole. Additionally, at the city scale, access to physical resources is perhaps not paramount because other areas within the country may have those raw materials. Instead, there are greater economic benefits for a city to focus on service activities.

### OPTIONAL EXTENSION

Students will take their three characteristics and craft a presentation with the goal of persuading their peers that they have indeed identified the ideal characteristics of a place.

- ▶ Students may utilize whichever presentation mode they believe is best for conveying their information. Possible examples include: 60 second commercial, print advertisement, poster, collage with written conclusion, brochure or pamphlet, or comic.

# HANDOUT

## IDEAL SITE AND SITUATION CHARACTERISTICS: AN EXAMINATION OF SOUTH KOREA

Now that you have examined documents related to site and situation, consider the ideal site and situation for a place.

Characteristics of South Korea	
Site Characteristics	Situation Characteristics
<p><b>RESOURCES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Iron</li><li>▶ Coal</li><li>▶ Limestone</li><li>▶ Tungsten</li></ul> <p><b>GEOGRAPHIC FEATURES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Relatively small land area</li><li>▶ Access to seas, 3 major rivers, many streams</li><li>▶ High mountains</li><li>▶ Farmable lowlands</li></ul> <p><b>CLIMATE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Temperate climate</li><li>▶ Monsoon season</li><li>▶ Siberian high-pressure zones</li></ul> <p><b>WILDLIFE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Bears</li><li>▶ Tigers</li><li>▶ Leopards</li></ul>	<p><b>POLITICAL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Only one land boundary</li><li>▶ Part of international organizations (e.g., U.N., WTO, etc.)</li><li>▶ Strong political ties with the United States</li></ul> <p><b>ECONOMIC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Major player in the global economy</li><li>▶ Connected to many countries via the shipping of products</li><li>▶ Multinational companies (e.g., Hyundai, Kia, Samsung, LG, etc.)</li></ul> <p><b>SOCIO-CULTURAL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ International music (K-Pop)</li><li>▶ International films ("Parasite")</li><li>▶ Highly educated workforce</li></ul>

Based on the information above:

**What is ONE site and ONE situation characteristic that could make South Korea an *ideal* place?**

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**Which characteristic (either of site OR of situation) do you think is most important in making any place *ideal*?**

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# HANDOUT

## MY IDEAL COUNTRY CHARACTERISTICS

Ideal Site Characteristics	Ideal Situation Characteristics

Which **THREE** characteristics from your list above are the most ideal? (pick at least one site characteristic and one situation characteristic)

Characteristic	Why it is Important
1.	
2.	
3.	

**Review and reflect on your list:** Consider that some characteristics may compete with each other. For example, if I want to have active trade with other countries, but my site is more defensive with high mountains and lack of sea access, then it is likely not possible to have both.

**Scale of Analysis:** If we change the scale of analysis of your ideal country to the city scale do your three selected characteristics change? If not, why not? If so, how?

