

VIRTUAL VACATION DETAILED OUTLINE PROJECT GUIDELINES:

Topic Selection:

Plan an exotic vacation with a geographical twist. Use the Internet to help you plan a geo-tour of a specific region or country. Your travel plans must be realistic, as you are on a student's budget (unfortunately, you just sold your Geography textbooks for extra cash). Upon arriving in your country or region of choice, your trip must begin, and end at the same location and the total distance you may travel is a maximum of 1,500 miles. This means that you may travel 1,500 miles round trip once you have arrived at your first destination (the distance between home and then initial destination site does not count toward the total mileage.) **You may not select the United States** as the destination site. Be exotic. Travel abroad. You must virtually visit **five** separate sites of interest. Each site must reflect a geographic theme. For example, the first site you visit is of interest because of its unparalleled mountain geomorphology; and, perhaps, the second site you visit has a distinct culture. Natural resources, environmental issues, sustainability, geomorphology, climatology, water resources, cultural landscape, cultural geography, agriculture, settlement, urban geography, demography, economic geography, spatial aspects of place, geography of religion, geography of language, globalization, political geography, tourism geography, and so on, are all potential geographical themes. Each theme presents a unique sense of place. Discuss one theme for per site visited. Ideally, each new site should have a different theme. You may not use the same geographical theme more than **two times and at minimum you have to use four themes** (only one theme may be repeated twice). **Do not discuss a single site in the context of multiple themes.** Discover the site's unique geographic quality. Apply only one geographic theme to each single site visited. I do not want a laundry list of facts. Focus.

Detailed Outline:

What is a detailed outline? You do not have to write a paper following the standard format of introduction, body, and conclusion. A detailed outline is brief and concise, and is broken by multiple subheadings. Each subheading corresponds to one of the five sites you plan to visit and its geographic theme. For example, your first entry may read -- Site One Location: Tokyo, Japan; Geographic Theme: Urban Geography. Follow the Site One subheading by a one-paragraph description of the site and its geographic theme. The paragraph should be 12 to 15 lines in length and single spaced. Then, move on to Site Two where you will visit Mount Fuji – Site Two Location: Mount Fuji, Japan; Geographic Theme: Geomorphology (Geomorphology is a sub-discipline of physical Geography).

Introduction:

You must choose to discuss at least five sites of interest and each site must be located outside of the United States. List the sites and Geographic themes to be discussed in the introduction. Your project must have an introduction that lists the sites you plan to visit. **In the introduction include a map of your region and route.** Clearly labeled each of the five sites you plan to visit and your exact route on the map. Link all sites on the map via a "line/route of travel". Do not draw the map by hand. **The entire map including the sites and route have to be digital.** It is easiest to create the map in PowerPoint. Find a blank outline map of your country or region on the web. Draw your route in PowerPoint using the draw tool for a line or curve. Label each stop on your route with a number. When you are finished making the map select everything you created and group the image (right

click “group”). Right click on the grouped image and click “save picture as.” Select the “.jpeg” extension. Save it to your computer. You now have a JPEG image file that you can insert into Word (click “Insert”, click “Picture” and then your file). Be sure to **reference the map** in the detailed outline. It makes little sense to include a map and not even mention it. Refer to it in your introduction as “see Map I”, having the map labeled as “Map I”. On the map, include a title, legend, and source (if used).

Photos:

Your project should contain at least one photo for each of the five sites you plan to visit. **Label the photos as “Picture One, Picture Two”** and so on. Refer to the photos in the appropriate section of the detailed outline for each site. Maps and pictures must be clear, and professional – no pixelated images. All photos must be larger than 1200x800 lines at minimum (larger is preferred). Illustrations are an important part of the project and should not be haphazardly thrown into the outline as an afterthought. Work the photos into the body of the project, rather than listing them all on multiple pages at the end of the project.

Length and Font:

The project text should consist of a one-paragraph introduction, and five one paragraph site entries. Each paragraph cannot be shorter than 12 single spaced lines. The detailed outline must be typewritten, single-spaced, and very concise. Do not use a bizarre font or a point size greater than 12. Your margins must be set to 1" on all four sides.

Source Information

The outline project must incorporate at a minimum 5 bibliographic entries (one for each of the sites visited) in a standard format. Provide a source for your map and photos.

General Guidelines:

Use geographic terminology from the text and lectures when writing the outline. Think spatially. Please staple papers in the upper left-hand corner. No Folders! Make sure that you make a **copy** of the project. In the event that your project is misplaced (which should never happen), you will have a back-up copy. It will be very difficult for you to prove to me that your outline was lost. Without a back-up project, I will doubt that you did the work. Please come and see me if you are unsure about a topic or are confused. It will only take a few seconds to make sure that you are on the right track.

General Layout:

I suggest that you use the following layout for your project. If you decide to deviate or be creative it is your choice, but the layout must make sense.

A cover page is not necessary. Begin the first page with a descriptive title of the project. Type in your name, class, class time, and the date you handed in the project. Skip down the page about 20 spaces and write your introduction to the project. On the same first page (in the introduction) include your map, illustrating your destination and route. Begin the second page with a bold subheading indicating site one, the location, and the geographic theme. Skip down several spaces and include your source information for the site in a standard bibliographic format. Skip down several lines and write a paragraph on the site visited as it applies to your single geographic theme. Insert the picture for the site directly into the text or to the right or left of the text. If you took the picture from the web provide a source (incorrect format). Put the source above or below the picture. Do not handwrite the source. Call the picture “Picture One” (and so on for future pictures), and refer to it in your paragraph discussion. Follow this format for the reaming four sites and you’re done. Have fun!