Spatial Thinking
Comments: Philip.gersmehl@hunter.cuny.edu

Spatial Concepts	Key Questions in Geography	At a Personal Scale	Actions that Reflect Cognition
Location	Where is the place? And why is it there?	Where am I?	Tell someone else where something is.
Condition (Site)	What is at the place?	What's it like right here?	List/describe what you might see, hear, smell
			etc. at a place.
Connection (Situation)	How is the place linked to other places?		List/describe ways a place is linked with other
			places.
Comparison	How are places similar or different?		Compare conditions/connections in one place
			with another.
Aura (Influence)	What effect(s) does a feature have on its		Analyze/describe how conditions in one place
	neighbors?		can affect nearby places.
Region	What nearby places are similar to this one?		Identify places that are close each other and
			similar or connected in some way, and draw a
			line to enclose them.
Transition	What is the nature of the change between	What is between me and that	Analyze/describe how things change from one
	dissimilar places?	place?	place to another.
Hierarchy	What larger area is this one inside? What	What larger entity am I	Identify sub-areas that are within your area or
	smaller areas are inside it?	within?	larger areas that your area is inside.
Diffusion	How do things spread through space?	How has my position	Analyze/describe how a patterns of things
		changed?	expands, shrinks or changes position through
			time.
Analog	What distant places are analogous to this one?	Is there another place like	Identify places that are in similar situations on
		this?	other continents or in other cities, states, or
			countries and therefore might also have similar
			conditions.
Pattern	Are there imbalances, clusters, strings,		Describe the spatial pattern of something on a
	doughnuts, other patterns?	147	map.
Association (Correlation)	Are the spatial patterns similar?	What features seem to occur	Compute the degree of association between
		together?	dissimilar features; do they tend to occur
			togther in the same places or does one never
			appear close to the other or does the presence
			of one seem to have no relationship to the
F	When a state of the decided decided in		presence of the other.
Exceptions	Where are the places that do not seem to		Identify places that do not show the association
Cartal Madai	follow an observed rule?		or pattern that you observed in most places.
Spatial Model	What processes allow events in one place to affect other places, perhaps far away?		