Geography Meets History

The role played by geography in history must always be considered, particularly when looking at military battles. In what ways was geography a factor in the history of the battle of Vimy Ridge?

![View over the crest of Vimy Ridge showing the village of Vimy, which was captured by Canadian troops. Library and Archives Canada PA-001446.](image)

Five Themes of Geography

Consider the five themes of geography in the table on the next page. For each theme, find an example from the Battle of Vimy Ridge or the area surrounding Vimy and the nearby town of Arras to complete the chart.

Resources:

1. Read the article found here to help you [http://battlefields.ca/the-battle-of-vimy-ridge/](http://battlefields.ca/the-battle-of-vimy-ridge/)
2. Take a look at the photograph above. How does it demonstrate the role played by geography? You can use your answer to help complete the chart.
**Theme** | **Explanation** | **Example from Vimy Ridge**
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**Location** | Indicating where a particular place on Earth is using “absolute” or “relative” location |  
**Place** | A description of the physical and human characteristics of a location being studied |  
**Human-Environment Interaction** | The interaction between humans and the environment |  
**Movement** | Any movement across a location; could be goods, people, animals, etc. |  
**Region** | Classifying parts of the world by a larger category. For example, Vimy is in northern France. |  

**FURTHER EXPLORATION**

Find out more about the tunnels at Vimy Ridge by watching the video clip below from CBC. How were the tunnels used at Vimy? What was it about the local geography that made these tunnels possible? How do you think a soldier would have felt to be in them?

- [http://www.cbc.ca/player/play/2595398072](http://www.cbc.ca/player/play/2595398072)