

“GEOGRAPHY – NATURAL SYSTEM OF THE EARTH”

(coursebook for secondary school)

SELF-MADE NOTES – UNIT 1. “Geography as a branch of science”

1. **Eratostenes from Cyrene** used the word *earth – ge* and defined geography as **a collection of information on the surface of the land as well as on the distribution of phenomena over them.**
2. **Claudius Ptolemy** – a Greek astronomer, mathematician and geographer – created the geocentric system of the Universe. He also constructed the mathematical rules of a map and a map of the world.
3. Nowadays geography is known as **a system of studies of the spheres of the Earth and their spatial diversity, including the natural environment and socio-economic factors.**
4. Geographical space has three dimensions:
 - **area**
 - **height**
 - **volume**
 - **time**
5. Socio-economic geography is a study of human economic activity in the **natural systems of the Earth.**
6. **Geological sciences** study the crust of the Earth, its history, structure and the processes taking place both inside and on its surface.
7. **GEOLOGY** – study of the lithosphere – is divided into:
 - **dynamic geology** (the ongoing and already completed processes inside and on the surface of the lithosphere)
 - **historical geology** (history of the Earth)
 - **palaentology** (extinct organic life)
 - **hydrogeology** (groundwaters)
 - **regional geology** (selected regions of the Earth’s crust)
8. Branches of geography, such as topography or cartography, are connected with GEODESY (land survey) and deal with map-making, maps and their particular use.