Different Types of Regions

Formal, Functional, and Perceptual
| Formal Region          | --Areas in which certain characteristics are found throughout the area
|                       | --EXAMPLES: Countries, states, and cities (*the City of Omaha*)
| Functional Region     | --A central place and the surrounding places affected by it
|                       | --EXAMPLE: The Omaha metro region (includes Bellevue, Papillion, Elkhorn, etc.)
| Perceptual Region     | --Area defined by people’s feelings and attitudes
|                       | --EXAMPLE: “The Midwest” |
Formal Region

Formal Regions = Areas in which certain characteristics are found throughout the area

• Formal Regions such as countries, states, and cities all share the same laws, government, etc.

• Would you know if you stepped in or out of Austin, Texas?
Functional Region

Functional Regions = A central place and the surrounding places affected by it

• The City of Austin is well-defined, but other places are affected by Austin, too.

• Can you name some of the other places in the “Austin metro region”? 
Perceptual Regions

- Perceptual Region = Area defined by people’s feelings and attitudes
- Where is “The Midwest”?
- Is Nebraska in the Midwest?
- Is TEXAS in the Midwest?
- Depends on each person’s feelings or attitudes.
Let’s Test Ourselves Over Regions:
When the region on the left pops up, you decide if it is Formal, Functional, or Perceptual

**Region:**
- State of Nebraska
- Amazon River basin
- Dixie
- The Sun Belt
- Lancaster County
- Country of Brazil
- The I-80 corridor
- Husker Nation

**Formal, Functional, or Perceptual?**
- Formal
- Functional
- Perceptual
- Formal
- Perceptual
- Formal
- Functional
- Perceptual