Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Absolute and Relative Location

**Location,** one of the five themes of geography, seeks to answer a simple question: “Where is it?” There are two types of location that we have defined: **absolute** and **relative** location. An **absolute** location describes a precise point on Earth or another defined space. A **relative** location describes where something else by using another, familiar feature as a reference point.

Identify whether the given description describes a **relative location (R)** or an **absolute location (A).** Write your response in the blank using capital letters only.

\_\_\_\_\_\_1. Describing where you go to school, you say: “1170 Carew Street”.

\_\_\_\_\_\_2. Describing where you go to school, you say: “Down the street from the Walgreens”

\_\_\_\_\_\_3. Describing where Springfield is, you say: “42° N, 72° W”

\_\_\_\_\_\_4. Describing where you have Social Studies at VSA, you say “Room 206”

\_\_\_\_\_\_5. Describing where you sit in social studies class, you say “In the front”

Identify a way to describe the following locations, making sure to respond with **absolute** or **relative** locations depending on what the questions asks of you.

6. (absolute) Describing where your house is, you say:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 7. (relative) Describing where your Middle School is, you say:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

For the following situation, decide if **absolute location** or **relative location** would be the most helpful. Change the color of your answer. Then, write a complete sentence explaining why you think this is true.

8. You want to locate Harrisburg, a city you have never heard of, on a world map because a friend mentioned they visited there over the summer. The problem is you don’t know the country in which the city is located!

Absolute or relative?

Why?

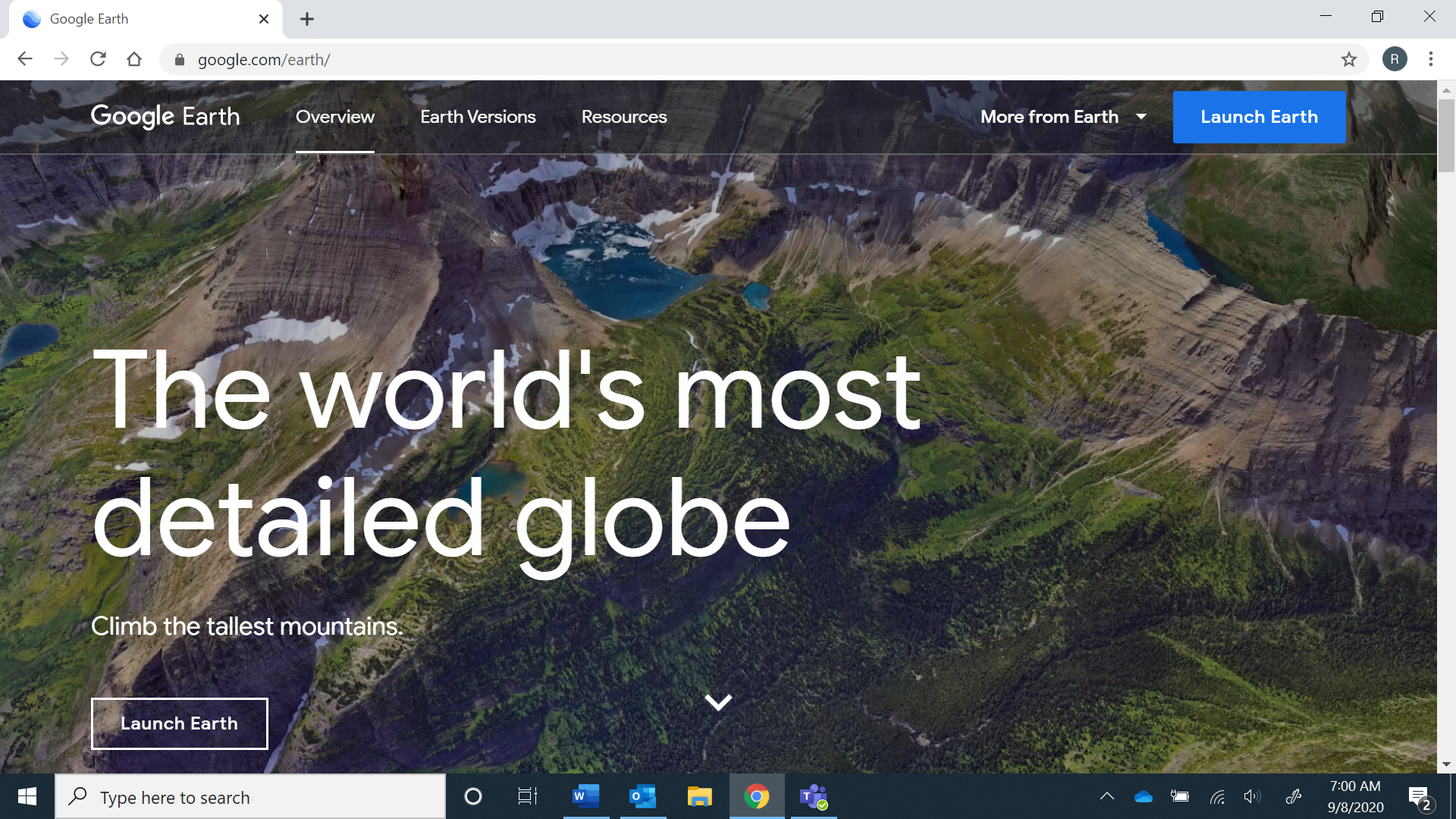
**Part 2**

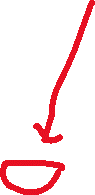
**Google Earth Coordinate Scavenger Hunt**

Use the supplied coordinate to find interesting things/places around the world using Google Earth.

1) Use Google Chrome and go to <https://www.google.com/earth/>

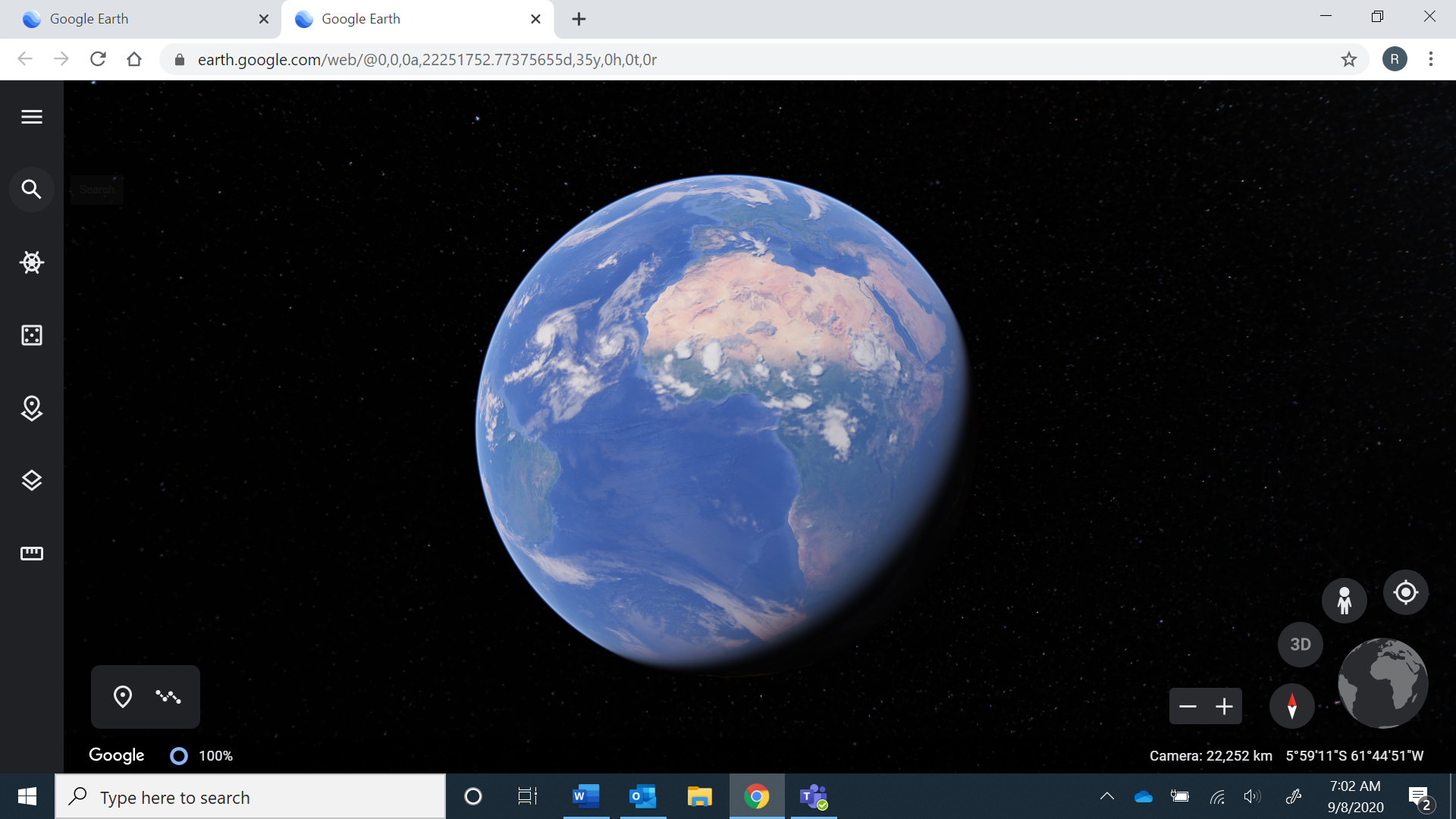
2) Click “Launch Earth” (Both options will work)





3) After it loads, click on the magnifying glass and enter the coordinates exactly as they are shown- it will then “bring” you to that location, describe what you see! *Hint: sometimes you will need to zoom in or out to get a clearer picture of where you are.*







|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Coordinates** | **Description** |
| 42 08’00”N, 72 34’33”W |  |
| 42.302284, -83.231215 |  |
| 28 23’46”N, 81 34’42.11”W |  |
| 33 52’04.4”S, 63 59’13.2”W |  |
| 26 21’28.4”N, 127 47’01.7”E |  |