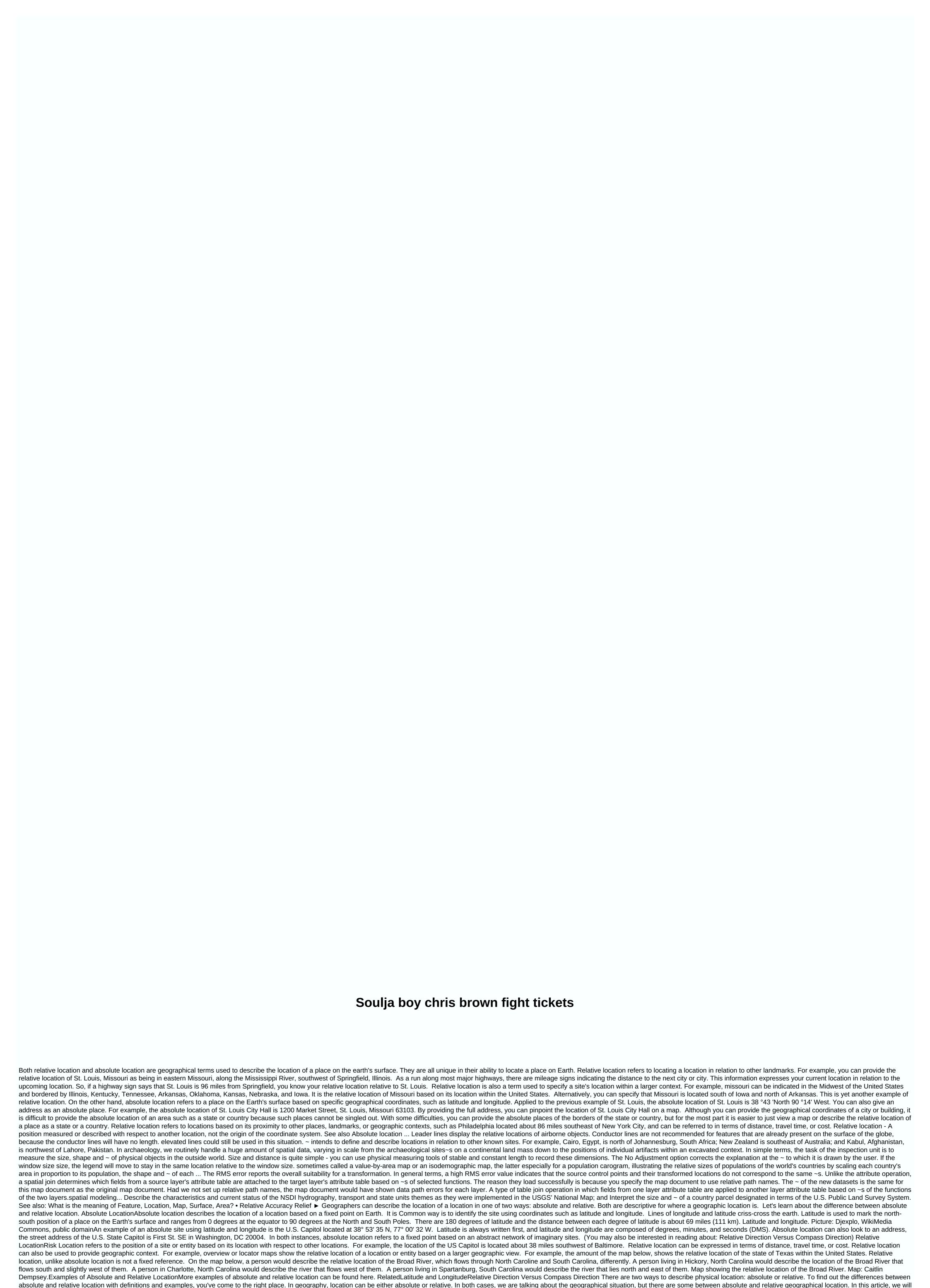
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learn what these differences are and when geographers use one or the other. What is Absolute Place? Absolute Place? Absolute location of a specific location based on a fixed point on the planet. Normally, this is done by using coordinates such as latitude and longitude. Geographers use the

latitude and longitude lines because they criss-cross the earth. What is latitude? Latitude is a coordinate that indicates the geographical position of any point on earth in terms of north and south. There is 180 degrees latitude and there is a distance between each of these degrees of about 111 km (69). miles). Latitude can range from 0 degrees at the equator and 90 at the poles (north and south). Nothing makes the Earth seem so spacious that it has friends from afar; they make latitudes and longitudes. – Henry David ThoreauWhat is longitude? Longitude? Longitude is a coordinate that specifies the geographical position of any point on Earth in terms of east and west. The absolute location of a site is determined using latitude and longitude. Let's see some examples of absolute location with some well-known world capitals: Washington, D.C, United States: 39.9072° N, 77.0369° WMexico City, Mexico: 19.4326° N, 99.1332° WSydney, New South Wales, Australia: 33.8688° S, 151.2093° ETyook, Japan: 35.6895° N, 139.6917° EBeijing, China: 39.9042° N, 116.4074° EMoscow, Russia: 5 5.7558° N, 37.6173° EParis, France: 48.8566° N, 2.3522° EThe first century refers to latitude and the second century to longitude. These figures refer to degrees. Places below the equator are marked with an S (South) and those above the equator with an N (North). Places east of Prime Meridian are marked with an E and those that are west to Prime Meridian with a W.Unsurprisingly, this way of establishing an exact location is Eurocentric. But, absolute location can mean something a little different. Sometimes the term absolute location can refer to the exact street address of a location. For example, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington DC 20500, USA is the absolute place of the White House. Avenida Juárez, Centro Histórico, 06050 Ciudad de México, CDMX, Mexico is the absolute place of palacio de Bellas Artes (Mexico City). Bennelong Point, Sydney NSW 2000, Australia is the absolute location of the Sydney Opera House. 4 Chome-2-8 Shibakoen, Minato, Tokyo 105-0011, Japan is the absolute location of tokyo tower.Moscow, Russia, 103073 is the absolute site of the Moscow Kremlin.4 Jingshan Front Street, Dongcheng Qu, Peking Shi, China, 100006 is the absolute site of the Forbidden City-The Palace Museum (Beijing). Champ de Mars, 5 Avenue Anatole France, 75007 Paris, France is the absolute location of the Eiffel Tower in Paris. As you can see, the of absolute location can be determined by the format may vary from country to country. Yet the differences between both versions of the absolute site are distinctive enough. What is Relative location? Now that we've seen what absolute place is, let's look at the relative location. The relative location of a location is always determined relative to relative location may not seem as accurate as either of the two versions of absolute location, but it's still good to locate a specific location. Location is everything; I'd rather camp in the Lake District or Scotland than sit in a five-star hotel in Frankfurt. – Rory BremnerThere are several ways to determine the relative location of a place: distance (in miles or kilometers), travel time (by car, flight, train, boat, bike, walking and a combination of these), or of the cost of the trip. Let's look at some examples of relative location: The location of the French city of Marseille is about 774 kilometers (481 miles) southeast of Paris, France. But it is also over 3 hours by train, over 7 hours by car, 43 hours by bike, or even 156 hours on foot. Train tickets can be purchased from 10 Euro. All of these can be purchased from 10 Euro. All of these can be used to determine the relative location of Marseille. The site of Toronto, Ontario (Canada) is about 800 kilometers (500 miles) northwest of New York City. It is less than 8 hours by train, 12 and a half hours by car. It is estimated that a person could walk that distance in 147 hours of non-stop walking. As you can see, relative location can be extremely useful in practical terms (not that absolute place can not be). The relative location allows us to think of place in a larger context. For example, within a country: Andalusia is a region of Spain south of the regions of Extremadura, La Mancha and Murcia, bordering Portugal to the west, and the Atlantic Ocean, and the Mediterranean Sea to the south; Wales is one of the home nations of the United Kingdom, located west of England and separated from Ireland by the Irish Sea; or Indiana is a state in the Midwestern region of the United States that borders Michigan to the northwest, Kentucky to the south, Ohio to the east, and Illinois to the west. We're not lost, we're place-wise challenged. – John M. FordIn fact, both absolute and relative location can be useful in practical or scientific terms. What is important is to understand the differences between them and to know one it is more appropriate to use one over the others. Was this article helpful? That's good to hear! Want more Science Trends? Sign up for our science newsletter! We're sorry to hear that! 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