**BASIC CONCEPT OF GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS)**

A **Geographic Information System** (**GIS**) is a system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present all types of spatial or geographical data.

The [acronym](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acronym) GIS is sometimes used for **Geographical Information Science** or **Geospatial Information Studies** refers to the academic discipline or career of working with Geographic [Information Systems](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information_system) and is a large domain within the broader academic discipline of [Geo-Informatics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geoinformatics).

In general, GIS describes any [information system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information_systems) that integrates, stores, edits, analyzes, shares, and displays [geographic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georeference) information. [GIS applications](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GIS_applications) are tools that allow users to create interactive queries (user-created searches), analyze spatial information, edit data in maps, and present the results of all these operations. Geographic information science is the science underlying geographic concepts, applications, and systems.

**DATA REPRESENTATION**

GIS data represents real objects (such as roads, land use, elevation, trees, waterways, etc.).

Real objects can be divided into two abstractions: discrete objects (e.g., a house) and continuous fields (such as rainfall amount, or elevations).

Traditionally, there are two broad methods used to store data in a GIS for both kinds of abstractions mapping references: [raster images](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raster_images) and [vector](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vector_graphics).

**GENERAL EVALUATION**

1. What is GIS?
2. Mention two features that can be represented with GIS.
3. Mention five physical features in your environment