How does Geography Affect Society?

Geography affects society in many different ways, but the most important thing it can influence is where communities grow and develop. In the past animals followed where there was enough water to live on and enough food to sustain its species. In turn, the communities of people followed where the animals went because it meant that there was a way to obtain water and food which are essential for a society to thrive. It is because of this fact that New York City is on the Hudson River, Boston is on the Charles River, and Washington D.C. is on the Potomac River. They are there because past civilizations once settled on rivers and today’s placement of large cities are based on where large civilizations were located in the past. Today geography still influences where a society is located. One thing that holds particular sway over the placement of civilizations today is easy ways to make money, such as mines of precious stones and metals, and ports on the sea, which can make for easy access of exports and imports. For example, Kiruna, Sweden has grown up around an iron ore mine and the ocean port of Los Angeles has a population of almost four million people. Societies today are echoes of the past especially in the placement of them all. . While it may seem that we choose where we live because of personal preference, we in fact follow the food, water, and money. That hasn’t changed since the beginning of organized civilization and probably never will.