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 **POWER BASICS**[®]

World Geography

Robert Taggart

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UNIT 1

Geography and Maps



LESSON 1: Geography and Maps



GOAL: To learn the special terms and symbols of geography and to use them to get and understand information from maps

WORDS TO KNOW

climate map	international date line	population
coast	key	population map
compass rose	land use map	prime meridian
continents	landforms	product map
degrees	latitudes	rainfall map
due	legend	resources map
elevation map	longitudes	road map
equator	maps	scale
globe	meridians	sphere
hemisphere	oceans	
hydrographer	parallels	

What Is Geography?

You might say that geography is about places. Or you might answer that geography is about maps. You would be correct in both cases.

Geography is a way of describing the special features of planet Earth. Geography is about places on Earth, both land and water. In some of these places, many people live close together. In other places, people have more living space. Geography tells us what a place is like and how it became that way. It also explains how people's lives are affected by where they live.

Geography is also about maps. **Maps** are like pictures of Earth. You can take a picture of something from far away, then get closer and closer. Each time you get closer, you see more detail. Maps do that, too. Imagine

yourself as an astronaut in outer space. As your ship circles the planet, you look down on Earth. A globe is a map of what you see might see. A **globe** is a three-dimensional map of Earth that is shaped like a ball.

TIP



As you read this book, it might be helpful to keep a map beside you (or have a globe handy). This will help you see how the terms, symbols, and ideas you are learning are used on maps you use in your own life. It will also help you visualize, or see, what a part of the world looks like.

PRACTICE 1: What Is Geography?

Match each definition below with the correct word from the box. Write the correct word on the line after each definition.

geography globe maps

1. flat pictures of Earth _____
2. a three-dimensional map of Earth, shaped like a ball _____
3. a way of describing the planet _____

Maps

You can learn a lot from a map. Maps can tell you where things are, what land looks like, and how far one place is from another. They can also tell you about the population and resources that are found in a certain place. (**Population** is the group of people living in one place.) There are many different types of maps. Each one gives you a different kind of information.

- A **climate map** shows you weather patterns.

- An **elevation map** shows you the height of the land.
- A **land use map** shows you which crops are grown in different areas.
- A **population map** shows you the population of different areas.
- A **product map** shows you what products are manufactured in different areas.
- A **rainfall map** shows you how much rain falls in different areas.
- A **resources map** shows you where to find natural resources, such as iron, coal, and natural gas.
- A **road map** shows you where highways, roads, and bridges are located.

■ PRACTICE 2: Maps

Read each question that follows. Match each question with the type of map from the box that would provide the answer. Write the name of the correct map on the lines provided.

climate	elevation	land use	population
product	rainfall	resources	road

1. What crops are grown in Idaho? _____
2. What products are manufactured in France? _____
3. What are the weather patterns across Africa? _____
4. How many people live in each state? _____
5. Which highway goes from San Francisco to Los Angeles?

6. How much rain falls in different parts of South America?

7. Which states produce coal? _____

8. How high are the mountains in Colorado? _____

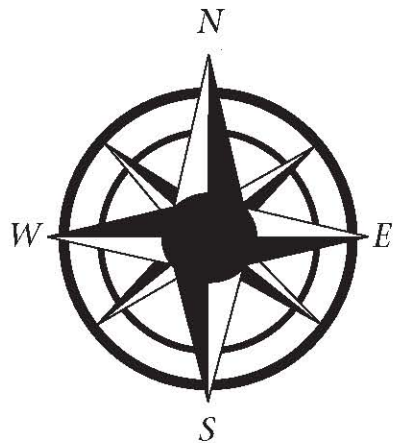
Getting Information from a Map

In order to learn from a map, you must know how to read it. All maps have certain tools to help you. The most basic tools are compass roses, scales, and legends. Learning how to use these tools will help you read the maps in this course and in the world around you.

Using a Compass Rose

One thing you need to know about maps is how to read directions. The key to determining direction on a map is called a **compass rose**. This is a round symbol with an *N* at the top. The *N* stands for *north*. The compass rose shows which way north, south, west, and east lie on the map. Most maps have a compass rose that only shows **due**, or exact, north at the top. All the other directions are implied.

Look at the compass rose on the right. Due north is marked on the top with an *N*. Due east is on the right, marked with an *E*. Due south is on the bottom, marked with an *S*. Due west is on the left, marked with a *W*. The direction northeast is found halfway between north (*N*) and east (*E*). Northwest is found halfway between north (*N*) and west (*W*). Southwest is found halfway between south (*S*) and west (*W*). Southeast is found halfway between south (*S*) and east (*E*).



Using a Scale

A second thing you need to know about maps is how to read distance. Most maps have a **scale** to help you read distance. The scale looks like a ruler. You can use the scale to measure distances on the map. For example, look at the map below of the United States. Suppose you want to know how far it is from Boston to St. Louis. First, use a piece of paper to mark the distance between the two cities. Then, hold the paper against the scale at the bottom of the map.



The scale shows you how far 600 miles would be on the map. Your paper should be just about twice that length. This tells you that the distance between the two cities is about 1,200 miles, or about 1,900 kilometers. (Most scales show distance in both miles and kilometers.)

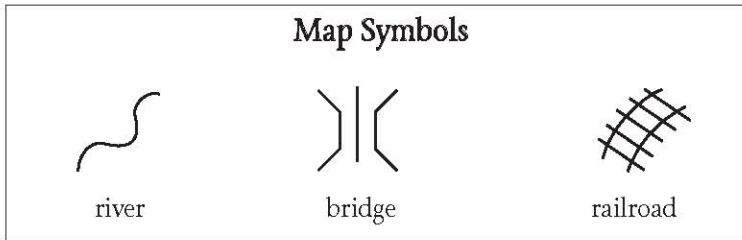
TIP



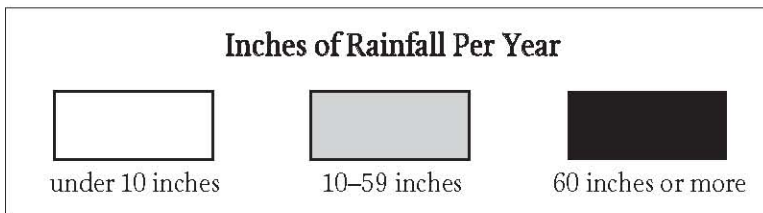
What if the distance you want to measure does not go in a straight line? What if you want to measure the distance around a lake, or a mountain range? If the route you want to measure does not go in a straight line, using a piece of paper will not help. Instead, use a piece of string. Lay the string along the route you want to measure. Follow any curves or bends. Then, cut the string at the end of the route. Hold the piece of string straight against the scale on the map. This will give you the distance of the route.

Using a Legend

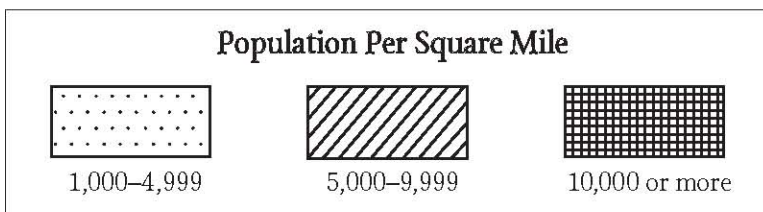
Most maps have a **legend**, or **key**, to help you understand the information on the map. Each symbol in the legend stands for something you find on the map. When you find a symbol on a map, you match it to the same symbol in the legend. The legend will tell you what that symbol means. Here are some common symbols:



A map legend might also use color, or shades of one color, to stand for types or amounts of information. In the example below, the three shades stand for different amounts of rainfall.



A map legend might also use different patterns to stand for types or amounts of information. In the example below, three different patterns are used to stand for population amounts.



TIP

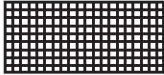
Understanding the background of a name can often help you remember what the name means. *Meridian* means “middle day” and comes from two Latin words, *medius* and *dies*. *Medius* means “middle.” The prime meridian is the middle, or the dividing line, between east and west on Earth.

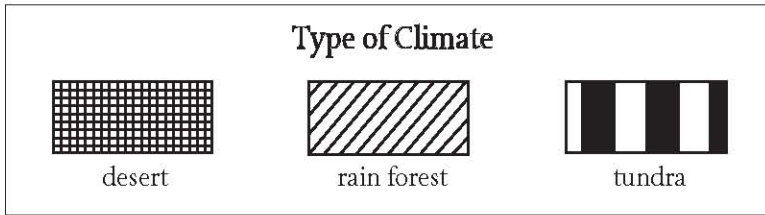
UNIT 1 REVIEW

Circle the letter of the correct answer to each of the following questions.

1. What can you use to find direction on a map?
 - a. the scale
 - b. the compass rose
 - c. a ruler
 - d. string
2. What is the definition of a continent?
 - a. a large body of water
 - b. a symbol on a map
 - c. land close to a large body of water
 - d. a large mass of land
3. What is the definition of a coast?
 - a. half of the planet
 - b. a large body of water
 - c. land close to a large body of water
 - d. a large mass of land
4. Which of the following lists three kinds of landforms?
 - a. river, bridge, road
 - b. island, river, rainfall
 - c. river, island, continent
 - d. continent, lake, railroad

5. What is the equator?
- a line running horizontally around the middle of the globe
 - the point where any line of latitude crosses a line of longitude
 - a line running vertically across the middle of the globe
 - the farthest point north you can go

6. Look at the legend below. What does the  symbol stand for?



- desert
- rain forest
- tundra
- none of the above

UNIT 1 APPLICATION ACTIVITY

Maps in Newspapers

Often, maps are printed in newspapers to accompany important news articles. Maps are visual tools that help readers understand the news they are reading. A map can be used to show readers where events in an article took place. This is especially useful when an article is about events in another part of the world.

Scan a few newspapers for maps. If a map is related to a news article, read the article. Notice how the map is used to show where events in the article took place. Cut out the map and article. Attach them to a separate sheet of paper.

Now, find a newspaper article that does not have a map. The article can be about local, national, or world news. On another sheet of paper, draw a map to accompany the article. Include important information from the article on your map. Use a world atlas for help.



World Geography

Teacher's Guide

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Unit 1: Geography and Maps

Unit 1 introduces the concept of geography as concerning both places and maps and the special terms and symbols used in geography. Lesson 1 is this unit's sole lesson. It opens with a discussion of the term *geography* and an explanation of maps, including the globe. Then Lesson 1 goes on to explore the types of information that maps can show, the features used in reading a map (compass rose, scale, and legend), the parts of a globe (continents, oceans, and hemispheres), and the globe's latitude and longitude lines. Students will use this basic information on geography and maps to explore the geography of various parts of the world in subsequent units of this book.

Lesson 1—Geography and Maps

Goal: To learn the special terms and symbols of geography and to use them to get and understand information from maps

WORDS TO KNOW

climate map	international date line	population
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continents	landforms	product map
degrees	latitudes	rainfall map
due	legend	resources map
elevation map	longitudes	road map
equator	maps	scale
globe	meridians	sphere
hemisphere	oceans	
hydrographer	parallels	

Notes on Application Activity in Student Text

Activity	Skills Applied	Product
Maps in Newspapers	gathering information, preparing a visual presentation	map

Additional Activity Suggestions

- Students can develop a dictionary of geographical terms as an ongoing project. For every lesson, have each student transcribe definitions of boldfaced terms such as *coast*, *peninsula*, and *cash crops*. Set up each student's dictionary in a loose-leaf notebook or card file. Or, have them create a computer database of terms. Encourage students to consult their dictionaries as they work through each lesson. Most terms, once introduced, are used several times throughout the course.
- To make map study more concrete, draw a large outline of a map on the floor with chalk or masking tape. (It does not have to represent a real location.) Add a compass rose showing only north. Have students orient themselves by using north to determine the other directions. Place classroom objects at various points around the map. Then have students stand on the map and tell which direction they would have to go to reach a particular object. ("Go north four steps. Turn toward the east. Take two steps to the east.")

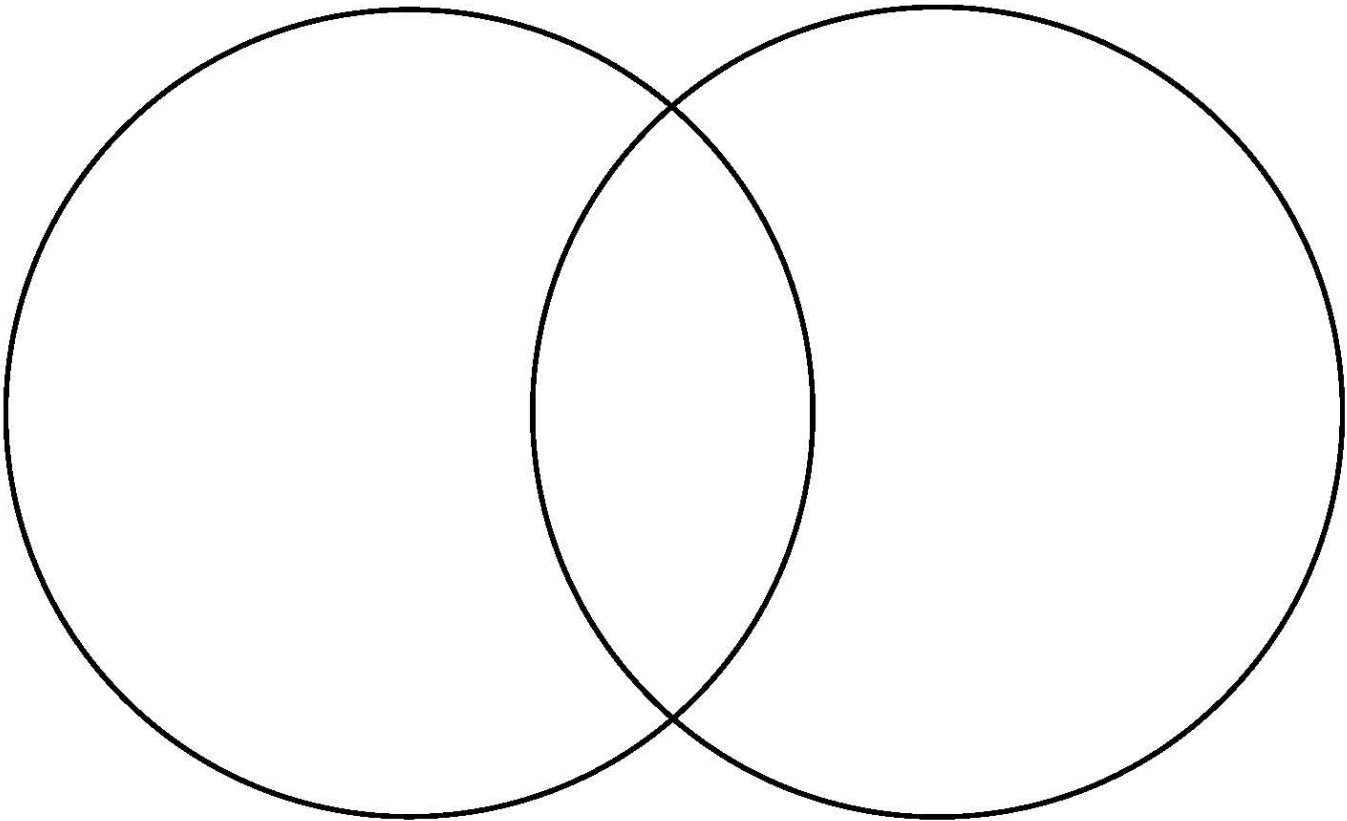


Differentiation

- Each lesson in this book includes a map of the region discussed in that lesson. Some students may grasp a region's location in the world and in relation to other regions best by finding that region on a globe of the world. As you work through the lessons of this book, be sure to have a globe of the world available in the classroom. Students can go to the globe, locate the region under discussion on it, and point out the location to classmates. Using the globe can also help students confirm understanding of latitude, longitude, and hemisphere. Invite students to trace latitude and longitude lines halfway around the globe from where they live. Ask them what country lies halfway around the world from their home. In what hemisphere is that country? From looking at the globe, what might be the best way to travel from the students' home location to the foreign country?

Venn Diagram

Complete the Venn diagram below with information about the ways that two countries of your choice are different—and alike. Write similarities in the area where the circles intersect. Write differences in the areas where the circles don't intersect. Don't forget to label both circles.



Comparison Matrix

Write the country or region you are comparing at the top of each column. Write one feature at the start of each row, such as “location,” “political divisions,” “population,” “bodies of water and waterways,” “landforms,” “climate types,” “agricultural products,” and “natural resources.” Add or delete rows and columns as needed. Then fill in each box in the matrix with the relevant information.

	Country/Region	Country/Region
Feature		
Feature		
Feature		
Feature		
Feature		



World Geography

Workbook

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**UNIT 1 • ACTIVITY 1****What Is Geography?**

Geography is a way of describing the special land and water features of the planet on which you live. There are five major themes of geography.

1. **Location** refers to the position of a specific place (absolute or relative).
2. **Place** is a specific area physically or culturally (the climate, people, vegetation, economic goods, history).
3. **Movement** talks about the transportation of people, ideas, and things.
4. **Human-environment interaction** refers to how people affect the world around them and how that world affects people.
5. **Region** is a group of places that have one or more similar characteristics, such as location, language, religion, and so on.

Read the following paragraph. Then write one example of each theme of geography that you found in the paragraph.

The fourteen-year-old girl woke up listening to her Japanese-made radio alarm clock. From her window, she could see that the sun was already rising behind the buildings in her city. She took a shower using water from the reservoir near her house. She put on her clothes, including a shirt made in Bangladesh and shoes made in Mexico. She headed down the stairs and into the kitchen. She poured herself some cereal made with grain grown in the U.S. Midwest, and added milk from the local dairy. She threw the empty milk jug into the recycling bin. She was looking forward to school today since there was going to be an assembly featuring all the international students. She had moved here from Russia a few years ago. She now lived in Boston, Massachusetts, near the Atlantic Ocean, and she felt right at home.

1. Location: _____
2. Place: _____
3. Movement: _____
4. Human-Environment Interaction: _____
5. Region: _____



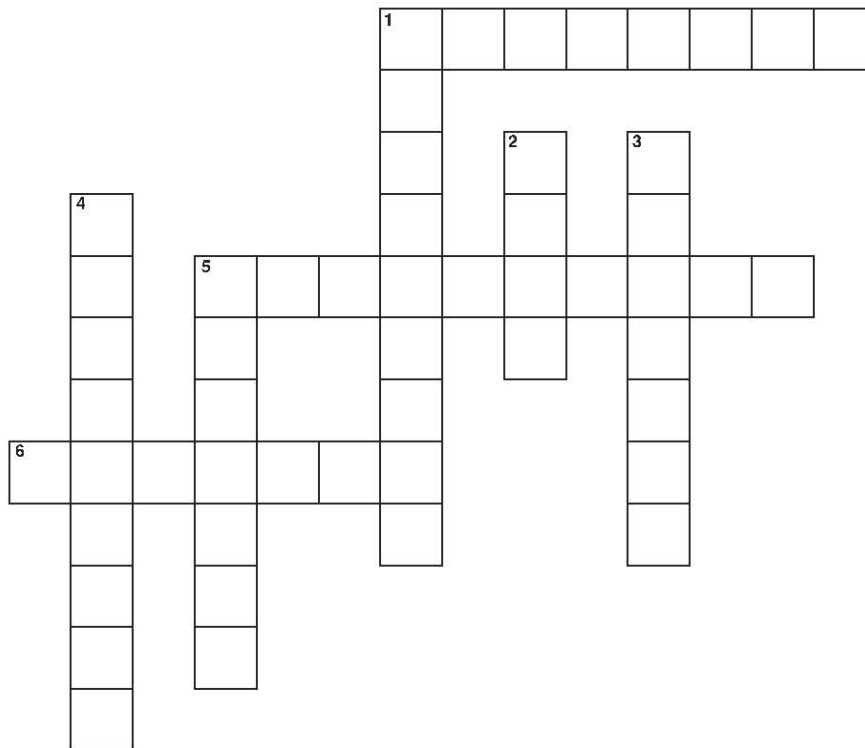


UNIT 1 • ACTIVITY 2

Types of Maps

You use maps to understand geography. A globe is a more accurate way of drawing the world, because it is round like Earth itself. Since it is difficult to put a globe in your pocket, cartographers (mapmakers) have used a variety of map projections to show a round object on a flat surface.

Imagine an orange. Take the peel off, and try to flatten the peel. The areas around the outer edges appear stretched out. The same thing happens with maps, but they are still the best way to show different kinds of information about the world. Review the section on maps in your student text. Complete the crossword puzzle below.



Across

1. Use this type of map to see how much rain falls in an area.
5. Use this type of map to see how many people live in China.
6. Use this type of map to see where corn is grown and cattle are raised.

Down

1. Use this type of map to see where gold is found in Africa.
2. Use this type of map to find your way to a new friend's house.
3. Use this type of map to find a place that has cold temperatures year round.
4. Use this type of map to find the height of the Andes.
5. Use this type of map to see where paper is manufactured.



NAME: _____



UNIT 1 • ACTIVITY 3

Classroom Map

Create a map of your classroom in the space below. Include the following:

- **Title:** My Classroom
- **Author:** (your name)
- **Key:** Use color to indicate desks/tables, teachers' area, pencil sharpener, and other landmarks in the room.
- **Scale:** Use your feet. For example, if your room is 20 of your feet wide and your map is 20 inches big, then your scale will be 1" on your map = 1 ft. in the room.
- **Compass rose:** You will need to find out which direction is north, south, east, and west of your school.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the student to draw their classroom map.

**UNIT 1 • ACTIVITY 4****Continents and Oceans Game**

In groups of four, use string or yarn to make the rough shapes of the continents in their correct locations on the floor. One student team will give the other team easy directions first. For example, “Travel from the biggest continent to the smallest.” One student would stand on Asia and the other on Antarctica. If they get it correct (both the answer as well as the location), they are given a medium direction and then a hard direction. If they get all three correct, they get three points and the other team plays. Play proceeds back and forth, the winning team being the one that follows the most directions correctly. Teams may discuss answers before they step on their maps.

Directions**Easy**

1. equator to Prime Meridian
2. Atlantic Ocean to Pacific Ocean
3. Indian Ocean to Arctic Ocean
4. Northern Hemisphere to Southern Hemisphere
5. Asia to Australia
6. Africa to South America
7. North America to Europe
8. Europe to Antarctica
9. Northern Hemisphere to Australia
10. Indian Ocean to South America

Medium

1. Latin America to North America
2. biggest continent to smallest continent
3. eastern Northern Hemisphere to western Southern Hemisphere
4. eastern Southern Hemisphere to eastern Northern Hemisphere
5. western Northern Hemisphere to eastern Southern Hemisphere
6. western Northern Hemisphere to western Southern Hemisphere
7. continent with the highest population to continent with the lowest population
8. Middle East to Southeast Asia
9. sub-Saharan Africa to Central America
10. Eastern Europe to the Middle East

Hard

1. driest continent with a permanent population to coldest continent
2. two continents that have the two longest rivers
3. two continents that have the two largest lakes
4. two continents with the highest mountains
5. the two deepest oceans
6. the two continents that each have about 13% of the world’s population
7. equator to the Tropic of Cancer
8. equator to the Tropic of Capricorn
9. Prime Meridian to the International Date Line
10. any location in the world likely to lie on a fault line (movement of tectonic plates causing possible earthquakes or tsunamis)



NAME: _____

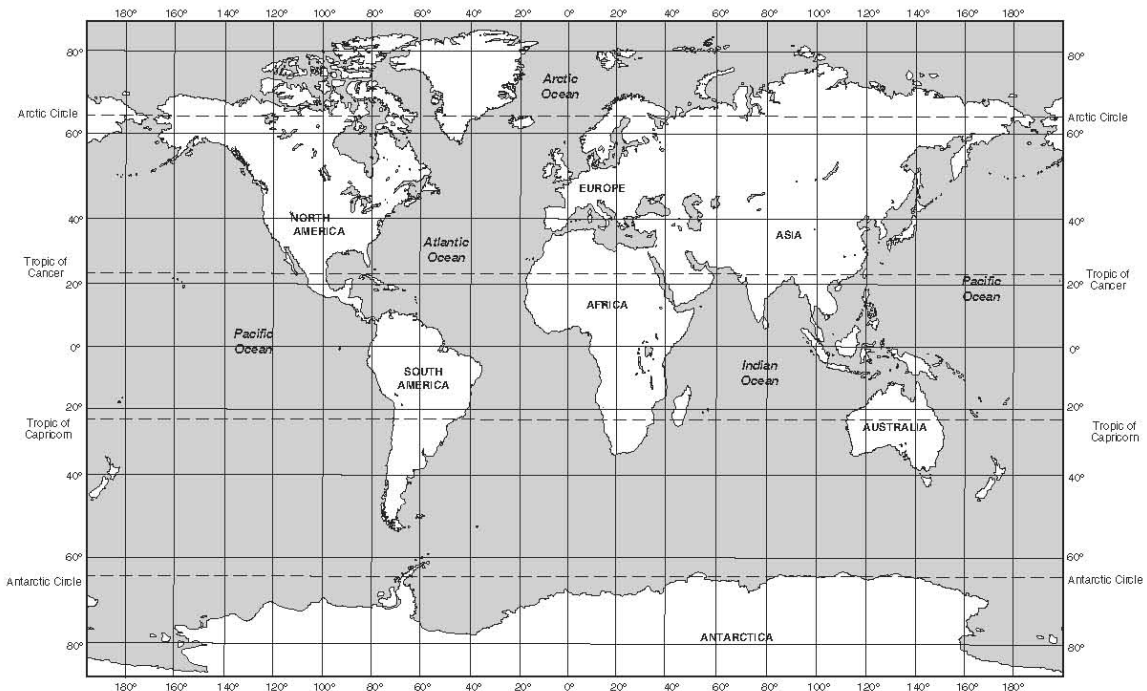


UNIT 1 • ACTIVITY 5

Latitude/Longitude

Place the following cities on the map as close as possible to their correct location using the latitude and longitude lines. Then answer the questions.

Washington, D.C., U.S.	38° N	77° W	Nairobi, Kenya	1° N	36° E
Quito, Ecuador	0°	78° W	Harare, Zimbabwe	17° S	31° E
Honolulu, HI, U.S.	21° N	157° W	Jerusalem, Israel	31° N	35° E
Punta Arenas, Chile	53° S	71° W	Novosibirsk, Russia	55° N	82° E
Greenwich, England, U.K.	51° N	0°	Perth, Australia	31° S	115° E



1. Name two of these cities that are on or near the equator. _____

2. Name the city that is on the Prime Meridian. _____
3. Name two cities in the Southern Hemisphere. _____

4. Name two cities in the Eastern Hemisphere. _____



NAME: _____



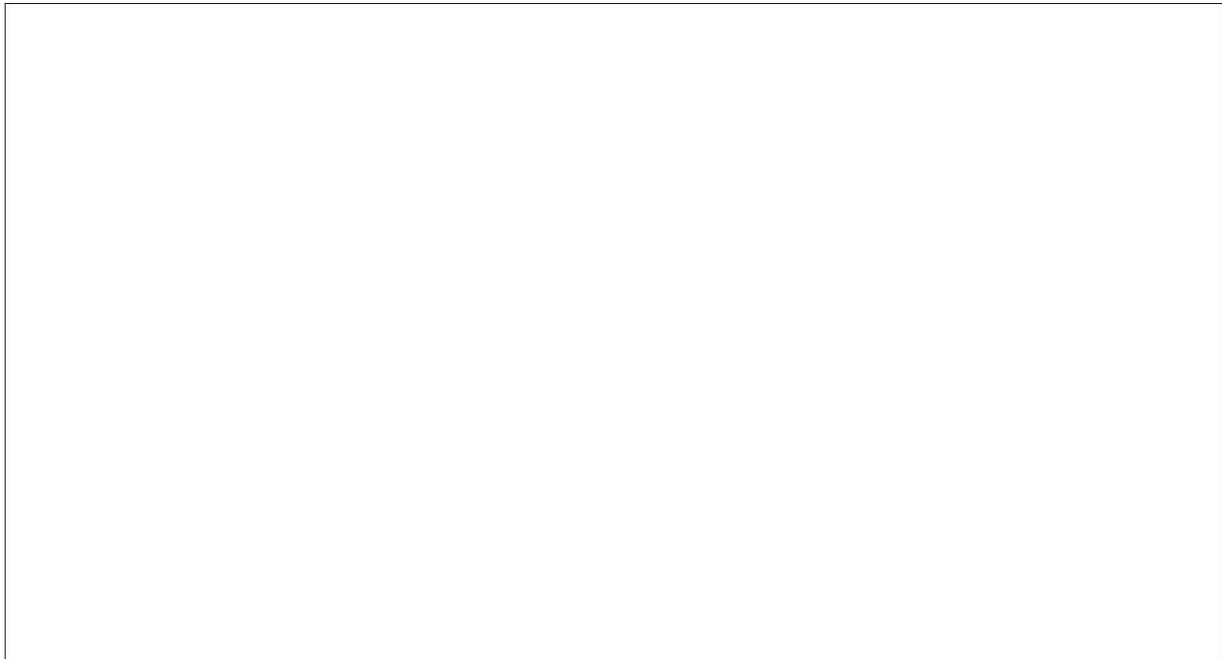
UNIT 1 • ACTIVITY 6

Create Your Own Island

Imagine that you have been exploring an uncharted part of the ocean. You and your team of scientists have discovered a new island. Now it is up to you to make sure it is mapped accurately.

Make a map of the new island in the space below.

- Include a title, a scale, and a compass rose on the map.
- Include the approximate latitude and longitude of your island. On the lines below the map, describe the island in relative location to the closest continents.
- On another sheet of paper, write a short story about your discovery. Include information about the climate, vegetation, and significant landforms of your island.







World Geography

Test Pack

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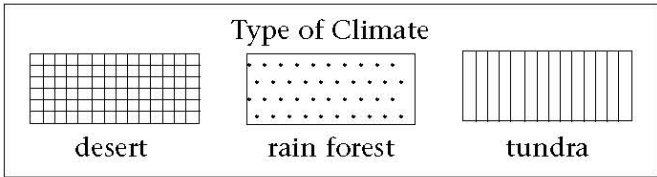


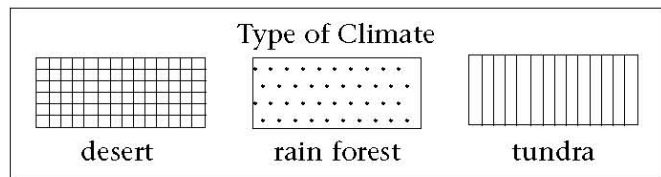
WORLD GEOGRAPHY • PRETEST

Circle the letter of the correct answer to each of the following questions.

1. Which of the following helps you find direction on a map?
 - a. a scale
 - b. a ruler
 - c. a compass rose
 - d. a piece of string

2. What is the imaginary line that separates the Northern and Southern Hemispheres?
 - a. the prime meridian
 - b. the degree
 - c. the longitude
 - d. the equator

3. Look at the legend below. What does the symbol  stand for?
 - a. desert
 - b. rain forest
 - c. tundra
 - d. none of the above



4. What is the definition of a coast?
 - a. the land closest to a body of water
 - b. a large mass of land
 - c. a large body of water
 - d. a group of people living in one place
5. What is the definition of a strait?
 - a. a narrow channel of water that connects two larger bodies of water
 - b. a body of land completely surrounded by water
 - c. a large area of the sea partly enclosed by land
 - d. a piece of land that sticks out into the water

UNIT 1 TEST • GEOGRAPHY AND MAPS

Circle the letter of the correct answer to each of the following questions.

1. What is a three-dimensional map of the earth called?
 - a. hemisphere
 - b. globe
 - c. demisphere
 - d. elevation map

2. What does a climate map show?
 - a. the number of people in different areas
 - b. the crops grown in different areas
 - c. where natural resources are found
 - d. weather patterns

3. What does an elevation map show?
 - a. weather patterns
 - b. what products are manufactured in different areas
 - c. how high the land is
 - d. how much rain falls in different areas

4. What does a resources map show?
 - a. where to find things such as coal, iron ore, and natural gas
 - b. where highways, roads, and bridges are located
 - c. where financial centers are located
 - d. what products are manufactured in different areas

5. What does a compass rose on a map show?
 - a. elevation
 - b. distance
 - c. direction
 - d. latitude

6. What is the best tool to use to measure distance on a map for a route that does not go in a straight line?
- ruler
 - tape measure
 - piece of paper
 - string
-

7. What is a rulerlike symbol used to measure distance on a map?
- a compass rose
 - a scale
 - a longitude
 - a strait
-

8. What is a legend?
- a list of symbols
 - a ruler
 - a scale
 - a symbol that shows direction
-

9. What is the definition of a continent?
- a large body of water
 - a symbol on a map
 - land close to a large body of water
 - a large mass of land
-

10. What are oceans?
- large areas of land next to water
 - bodies of water totally enclosed by land
 - the largest bodies of water on the earth
 - the second-largest bodies of water on the earth

WORLD GEOGRAPHY • POSTTEST

Circle the letter of the correct answer to each of the following questions.

1. What is the definition of a continent?
 - a. a large mass of land
 - b. a large body of water
 - c. land nearest to a large body of water
 - d. half of a globe

2. What is the definition of population?
 - a. a list of symbols used on a map
 - b. a group of people living in one place
 - c. a three-dimensional map
 - d. physical features of the planet

3. What is the purpose of latitude and longitude lines?
 - a. to help you locate the equator
 - b. to separate the earth into eastern and western hemispheres
 - c. to separate the earth into northern and southern hemispheres
 - d. to help you find the location of any place on the earth

4. What is a compass rose used for?
 - a. to show distance
 - b. to show direction
 - c. to show scale
 - d. to measure large distances

5. What is an island?
 - a. a narrow channel of water that connects two larger bodies of water
 - b. a body of land completely surrounded by water
 - c. a large area of the sea partly enclosed by land
 - d. a piece of land that sticks out into the water