



LATITUDE and LONGITUDE KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



Overview

Latitude and longitude are a system of lines that are used to describe the location of any place on Earth.

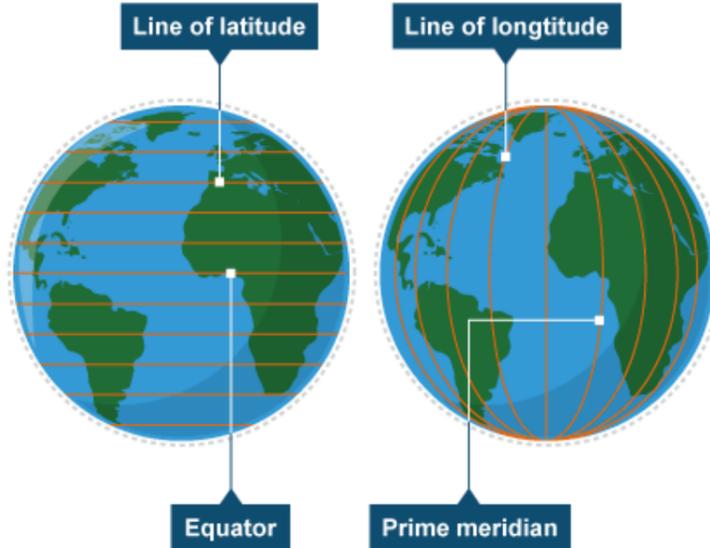
Latitude

-Lines of latitude run in an east-west direction across the Earth.

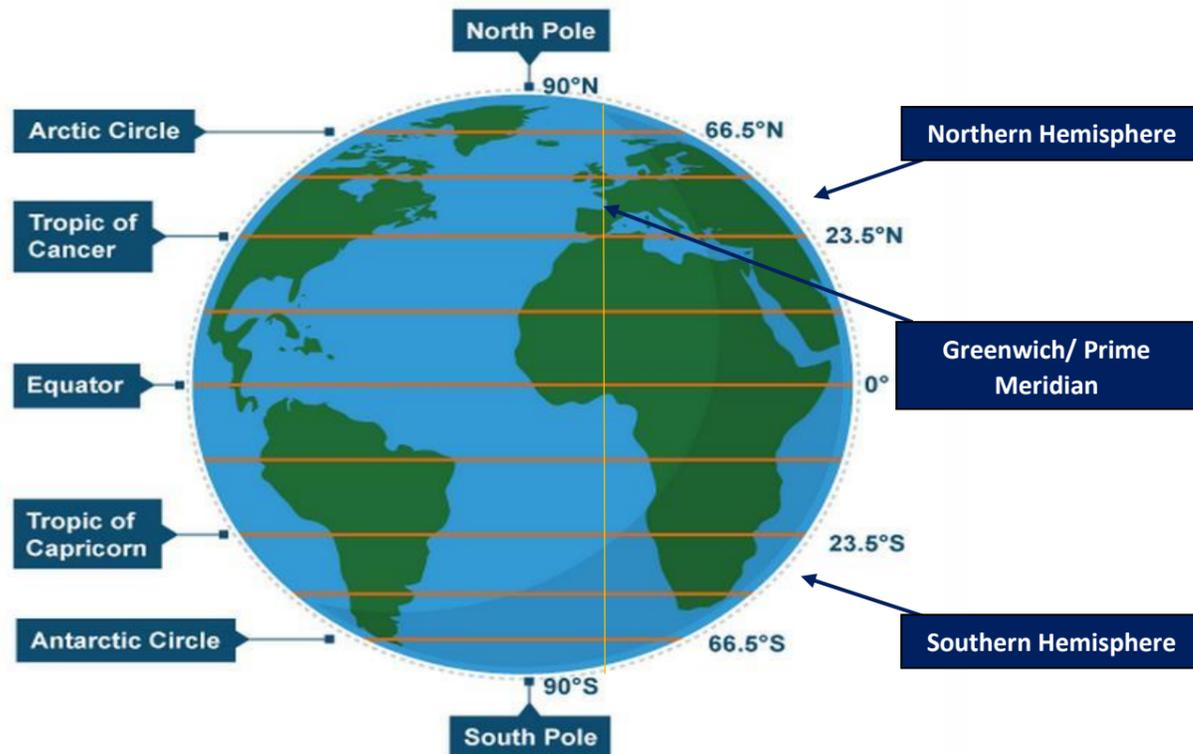
Longitude

-Lines of longitude run in a north-south direction.

Although lines of longitude and latitude are only imaginary, they exist on maps and atlases to help to show us where different places are.



Labelled Diagram



Latitude

- Lines of latitude circle the Earth parallel to the Equator.
- Lines of latitude run in an east-west direction all of the way around the Earth.
- Latitude is measured in degrees. The Equator is located at 0°.
- Anything north of the Equator is in the northern hemisphere and is labelled °N.
- Anything south of the Equator is in the southern hemisphere and is labelled °S.

Equator		-The Equator is an imaginary line of latitude which circles the Earth. It lies halfway between the North/ South Poles. -It splits Earth into the Northern/ Southern Hemispheres. The distance around the Equator is about 24,900 miles.
Tropic of Cancer		-The Tropic of Cancer is an imaginary line of latitude which circles the Earth. It lies at 23 degrees north (23°N). -It is the latitude where the Sun is overhead on June solstice (middle of summer in the northern hemisphere).
Tropic of Capricorn		-The Tropic of Capricorn is an imaginary line of latitude which circles the Earth. It lies at 23 degrees south (23°S). -It is the latitude where the Sun is overhead on December solstice (middle of summer in the southern hemisphere).
Northern Hemisphere		-The Northern Hemisphere is the section of the Earth that is north of the Equator. -About 68% of land is in the Northern Hemisphere. -Countries include the UK, USA, and Russia.
Southern Hemisphere		-The Southern Hemisphere is the section of the Earth that is south of the Equator. -Only About 32% of land is in the Northern Hemisphere. -Countries include Brazil, Australia, and New Zealand.
Arctic Circle		-The Arctic Circle is the area north of an imaginary line of latitude situated at around 66°N. -In the Arctic Circle, all places have 24 hours of daylight during the December solstice.
Antarctic Circle		-The Antarctic Circle is the area south of an imaginary line of latitude situated at around 66°S. -In the Antarctic Circle, all places have 24 hours of daylight during the December solstice.

Longitude

- Lines of longitude run between the North and South Poles. These lines are called meridians.
- Like latitude, longitude is measured in degrees. The Greenwich (or Prime) Meridian is at 0°E.
- Anything east of the Greenwich Meridian is in the eastern hemisphere and is labelled °E.
- Anything west of the Greenwich Meridian is in the western hemisphere and is labelled °W.

Greenwich/ Prime Meridian		-The Greenwich Meridian is an imaginary line of longitude that divides Earth into the Eastern/Western hemispheres. -It is the start point for measuring longitude & time zones. -Greenwich was chosen because its Royal Observatory was used as a major navigational base at the time.
Time Zones		-Time zones give the time at different places on Earth (it is day/night at different times in different places). -Time zones run longitudinally and are measured in relation to the time in Greenwich (Greenwich Mean Time). -There are 24 time zones across the world.

Key Vocabulary

- Latitude
- Longitude
- North
- East
- South
- West
- Equator
- Tropic of
- Cancer
- Tropic of
- Capricorn
- Hemisphere
- Arctic Circle
- Antarctic Circle
- Time Zone
- International Date Line
- Meridian
- Greenwich/ Prime Meridian

Time Zones

