



KEY VOCABULARY

cartographer	A person who draws and produces maps.
equator	An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth (0° latitude).
parallel	Lines of latitude that run parallel to the equator.
meridian	Lines of longitude that run from pole to pole.
Prime Meridian	The 0° line of longitude which runs through Greenwich, London.
hemisphere	Half of the Earth.
coordinate	A set of numbers (latitude and longitude) used to locate a place.
projection	The method of putting the curved surface of the Earth onto a flat map.
scale	The relationship between a distance on a map and the real distance on Earth.
relief map	A map that shows how high or low the land is.
topography	The study of the shape and features of the Earth's surface.

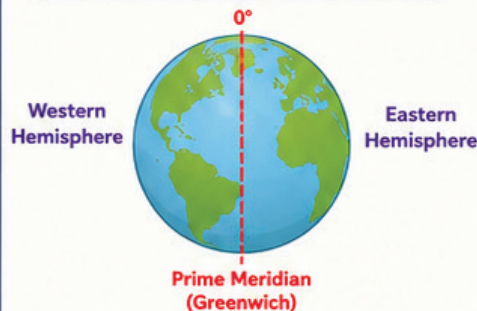
HEMISPHERES

The Earth can be divided in two ways.

Northern and Southern Hemispheres



Eastern and Western Hemispheres



The Prime Meridian line is 0° longitude. It runs through Greenwich in London.



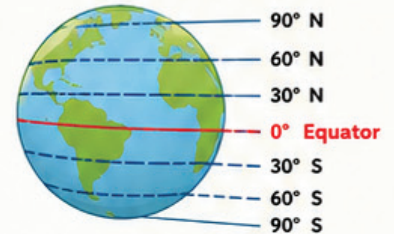
Royal Observatory, Greenwich, London

CO-ORDINATES

Co-ordinates use lines of latitude and longitude to find exact places on Earth.

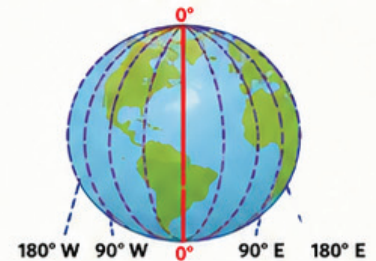
Latitude (parallels)

Lines run east to west, parallel to the equator. Measured in degrees (°) north or south of the equator.



Longitude (meridians)

Lines run north to south, from pole to pole. Measured in degrees (°) east or west of the Prime Meridian.



Together, latitude and longitude make a coordinate (e.g. 51°N, 0°W).

MAP SCALE

Map scale shows the relationship between a distance on a map and the actual distance on Earth.

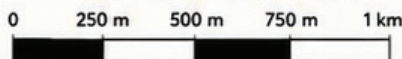


Large-scale maps show small areas with lots of detail (e.g. 1:25 000).



Small-scale maps show large areas with less detail (e.g. 1:10 000 000).

Example scale bar (1 cm = 250 m)

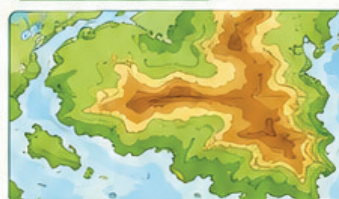


Use the scale bar to work out the real distance between two places.

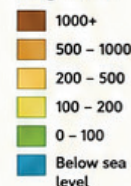
RELIEF MAPS

Relief maps show the height of land. Height can be shown by colour or contour lines.

Coloured relief map



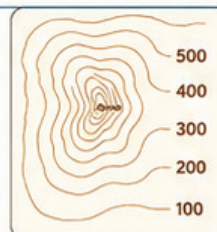
Height (m)



Contour map

Contour lines join points of equal height.

- Lines close together = steep slope
- Lines far apart = gentle slope



TOPOGRAPHY

Topography is the study of the shape and features of the Earth's surface.



mountains



valleys



hills



rivers



bridges



dams

Topographical features can be natural or built by humans.

KEY FACTS TO REMEMBER



Cartographers draw imaginary lines to divide the world into sections.



Latitude lines are parallel to the equator.



Longitude lines run from pole to pole and meet at the poles.



The Prime Meridian is 0° longitude and runs through Greenwich.



Co-ordinates (latitude and longitude) help us locate places accurately.



Map scale helps us calculate real distances between locations.



Relief maps and topography show height and the shape of the land.



Geography helps us understand the world, how it works and how people and places connect.