

What is Latitude?

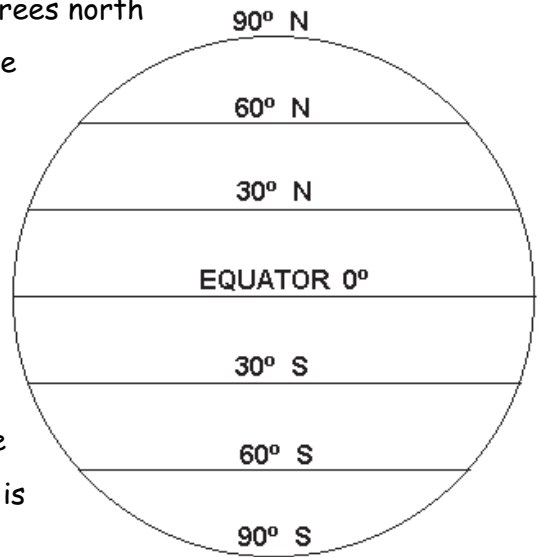
Name: _____ Class: _____

Latitude is defined as a measurement of distance in degrees north and south of the equator. The word latitude is derived from the Latin word , "latus", meaning "wide."

There are 90 degrees of latitude from the equator to each of the north and south poles. Latitude lines are pictured on the globe to the right. Latitude lines are parallel, that is they are the same distance apart. In fact, they are sometimes called parallels.

At 7,926 miles (12, 756 km) in length, the equator is the longest of all lines of latitude. It divides the earth in half and is measured as 0° (zero degrees).

Positions on latitude lines above the equator are called "north" and are in the northern hemisphere. Miami, Florida, for example, is nearly twenty-five degrees north of the equator. Its approximate latitude is written as 25° N. Positions on latitude lines below the equator are called "south". Brisbane Australia, for example, is near the thirty degree latitude line too, but in the southern hemisphere. Its latitude is written as 30° S.



Complete the Following

- Lines of latitude are _____ to the equator.
- There are _____ degrees of latitude north and south of the equator.
- The equator is _____ degrees.
- Another name for latitude lines is _____ .
- The equator divides the earth into _____ equal parts.

Write a definition of latitude.

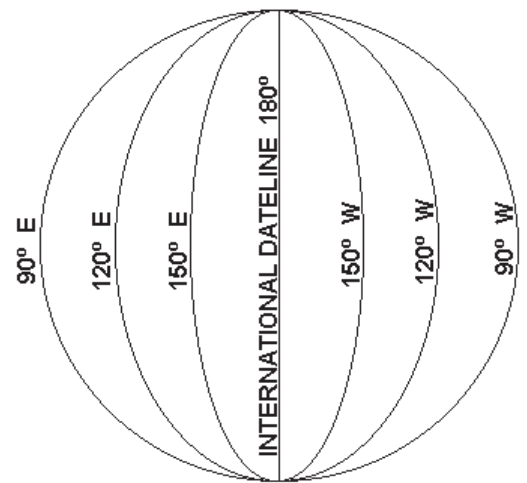
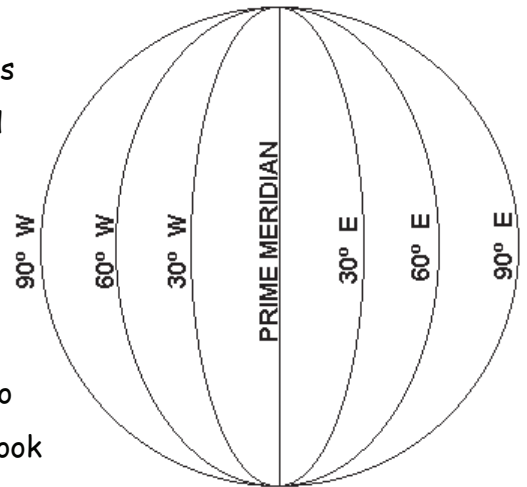
What is Longitude?

Longitude is defined as measurement of distance in degrees east or west of the prime meridian. The word longitude is derived from the Latin word, "longus", meaning "length". The prime meridian divides the earth in half too. It is also 0° . It passes through the community of Greenwich, England.

The prime meridian, as do all other lines of longitude, pass through the north and south pole. This is shown in the diagrams to the right. Longitude lines are not parallel. They make the earth look like a peeled orange.

There are 180 lines of longitude on the each side of the prime meridian. But on the opposite side, the prime meridian is not zero degrees but 180° . Here, it is called the International Date line.

Longitude lines to the left of the prime meridian give locations west, in the western hemisphere. Longitude lines to the right of the prime meridian give locations east, in the eastern hemisphere. Miami, Florida, for example, is near the 80° line of longitude. It is west of the prime meridian and is written 80° W.



Complete the Following

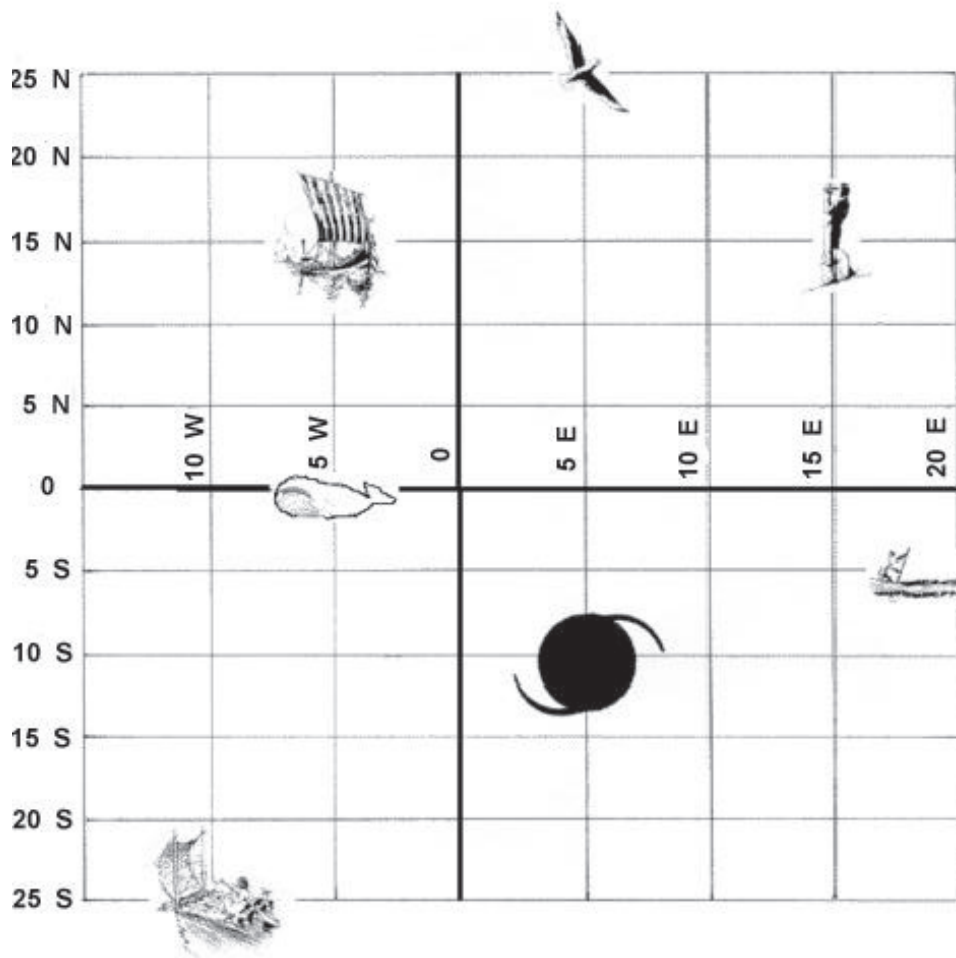
- Longitude lines connect the _____ pole with the _____ pole.
- The line of 0° longitude is called the _____.
- Longitude lines give directions _____ and _____ of the prime meridian.
- There are _____ degrees of longitude each side of the prime meridian.
- Longitude lines are not _____ like latitude lines.

Write a definition of longitude.

Using Latitude and Longitude

To find your exact location on a map, you need to determine which latitude line and which longitude line meet where you are standing. When writing locations, the latitude is given first. Miami, Florida then, has a location of 25° North and 80° West. This is usually written in a short form as 25° N 80° W.

Give the latitude and longitude of the shapes positioned on the grid below.



Viking Ship

Hurricane

Tourist

Rafter

Whale

Canoeists

Flying Bird