

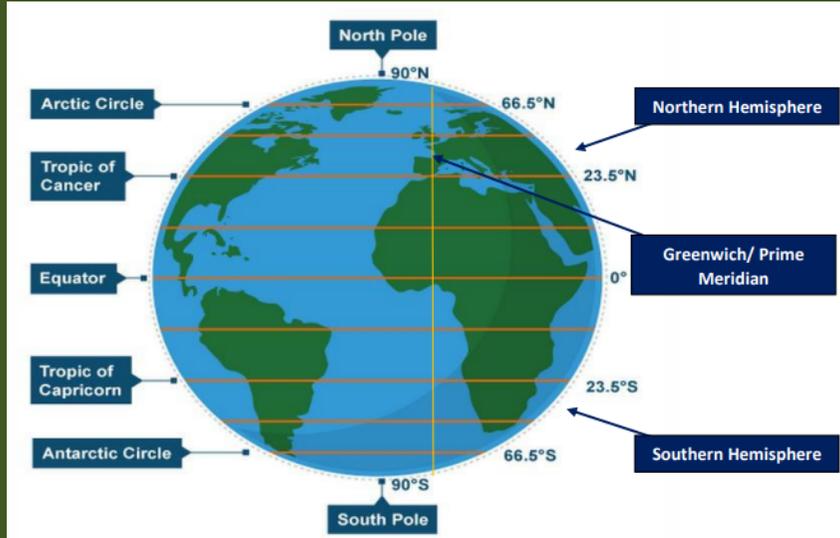


Where in the world are we?

YEAR 3
GEOGRAPHY

KNOWLEDGE MAT

KEY KNOWLEDGE



KEY VOCABULARY

Compass points = the four main directions on a magnetic compass and some of the divisions in between: N, NE, E, SE, S, SW, W, NW

Lines of latitude = imaginary parallel lines/circles, horizontal to the Equator, that never meet, and get smaller towards the Poles

Lines of longitude = imaginary north-to-south lines/ circles, meeting at the North and South Poles to make segments. They are all the same length and go from pole to pole

Equator = imaginary line/circle of latitude around the Earth, midway between North and South Poles, dividing the Earth into Northern and Southern Hemispheres. The Equator lies at 0° latitude: the midday Sun is always high in the sky. Because the sun is never far from being overhead, the sun's rays are very concentrated and so temperatures are high.

Antarctic Circle = imaginary line/circle about 66.5° south of the Equator

Arctic Circle = imaginary line/circle about 66.5° north of the Equator

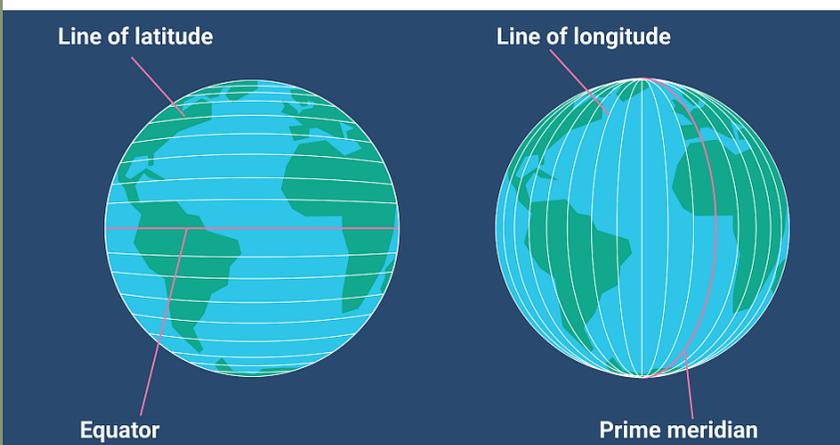
Northern Hemisphere = half of the Earth north of the Equator

Southern Hemisphere = half of the Earth south of the Equator

North Pole = point where the northern end of the Earth's axis of rotation meets the Earth's surface

South Pole = point where the southern end of the Earth's axis of rotation meets the Earth's surface

Latitude and Longitude





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Day = time from sunrise to sunset each day, in relation to the Earth's rotation on its axis.

Night = time from sunset to sunrise each day, in relation to the Earth's rotation on its axis.

Prime Meridian (Greenwich Meridian, PM) = imaginary line/circle passing through the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, London, marking 0° longitude.

Time zone = area between lines of longitude following a standard time.

International Date Line (IDL) = a line of latitude. It is an imaginary north-south line/circle running through the Pacific Ocean, approximately along the 180° meridian from avoiding land.

Tropic of Cancer = imaginary line/circle about 23.5° north of the Equator; the furthest north where the Sun appears overhead once a year.

Tropic of Capricorn = imaginary line/circle about 23.5° south of the Equator; the furthest south that the Sun appears overhead once a year.

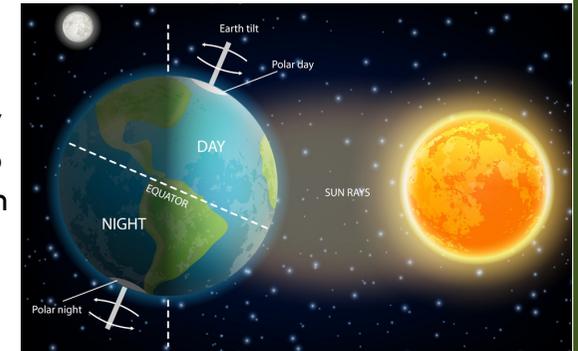
Ordnance Survey (OS) grid references = the UK is covered by a grid of maps that are given letters. A grid system of numbers are used to locate places on each map.

Global Positioning Systems (GPS) = internationally used way of pinpointing an exact location on the Earth's surface using space-based satellite technology.

KEY KNOWLEDGE

Day and Night

The Earth orbits the sun once every 365 days and rotates about its axis once every 24 hours. Day and night are due to the Earth rotating on its axis, not its orbiting around the sun.



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.

