Name: **Period:**

Unit 1 Packet:
Map Skills and Geographic Tools

Why Study Geography?

Geography is the study of the world and its people. The word "geography" comes from two ancient Greek words—the word for "Earth" and the word for "writing." Modern geography covers the study of Earth's **physical geography,** which includes the study of climate zones, vegetation, landforms, and forces that change the earth's surface; as well as Earth's **cultural geography—**people's ways of life, patterns of migration, religions, governments, and economic systems.

People sometimes say that our world is "shrinking," by which they mean that people around the world are more interconnected and dependent upon each other all the time. People, goods, and ideas can move from one place to another in the blink of an eye! The study of geography makes us better able to understand and thrive in our world today.

Learning Targets

(These are the things you need to know and be able to do)

Essential Map Skills: Who Needs to Use Maps?

1. Identify the earth's continents and oceans on a world map.
2. Identify and use the parts of a map (compass rose, scale bar, key).
3. Use coordinates of latitude and longitude to identify the absolute location of different places.

The Geographer's Tools: How Can I Learn About Different Places?

4. Explain the special purposes of and interpret information from different types of maps (physical, political, topographic, population density, climate, and product).
5. Describe and evaluate the uses of different tools and technologies used by geographers (globes, maps, GPS, GIS).

Important Vocabulary:

compass rose	absolute location	relative location	hemisphere
Equator	Prime Meridian	scale bar	longitude
key	*cartographer	latitude	elevation

Look up and write down the definitions of your assigned vocabulary words. Then, write a sentence making a comparison or connection (an analogy) between each new word and one of the "random" words listed below.

Elephant *Eggshell* *Shoelace* *LeBron James*
Pokemon *Laptop* *Scissors*

Word	*Definition*	*Analogy*
1.		
2.		
3.		

Unit 1 Vocabulary Challenge

Look at the words below. You are probably familiar with many of them; but for any that are new to you, look them up in the textbook Glossary and familiarize yourself, jotting down notes as needed. Then, using the space below, create a drawing/illustration/mural that incorporates each of the words in some way.

Important Vocabulary:

compass rose	absolute location	relative location	hemisphere
Equator	Prime Meridian	scale bar	longitude
key	*cartographer	latitude	elevation

Target 2: Parts of a Map

Identify and use the parts of a map (compass rose, scale bar, key)

Main Idea: Maps are drawings that represent a portion of the Earth's surface on a flat piece of paper that can be folded and transported easily. A map is a "snapshot" showing geographic information. We use maps to find our way from one place to another, to see where places are located, or to show how far one place is from another. To grasp the information on a map, you need to understand its different parts.

Key or Legend:

Scale Bar:

Compass Rose:

Source: www.chinaforeignrelations.net

Large-Scale:

Small-Scale:

This map of Beijing, China is a _____-scale map!

Source: www.china-mike.com

Target 2: Using the Parts of a Map

Directions: Use the different maps below to practice using a map key, compass rose, and scale bar.

Map 1: India *(Source: www.enchantedlearning.com)*

Map Key

1. What does this map key tell you? _____

Compass Rose

2. What direction would you travel to go from New Delhi to Kolkata? _____

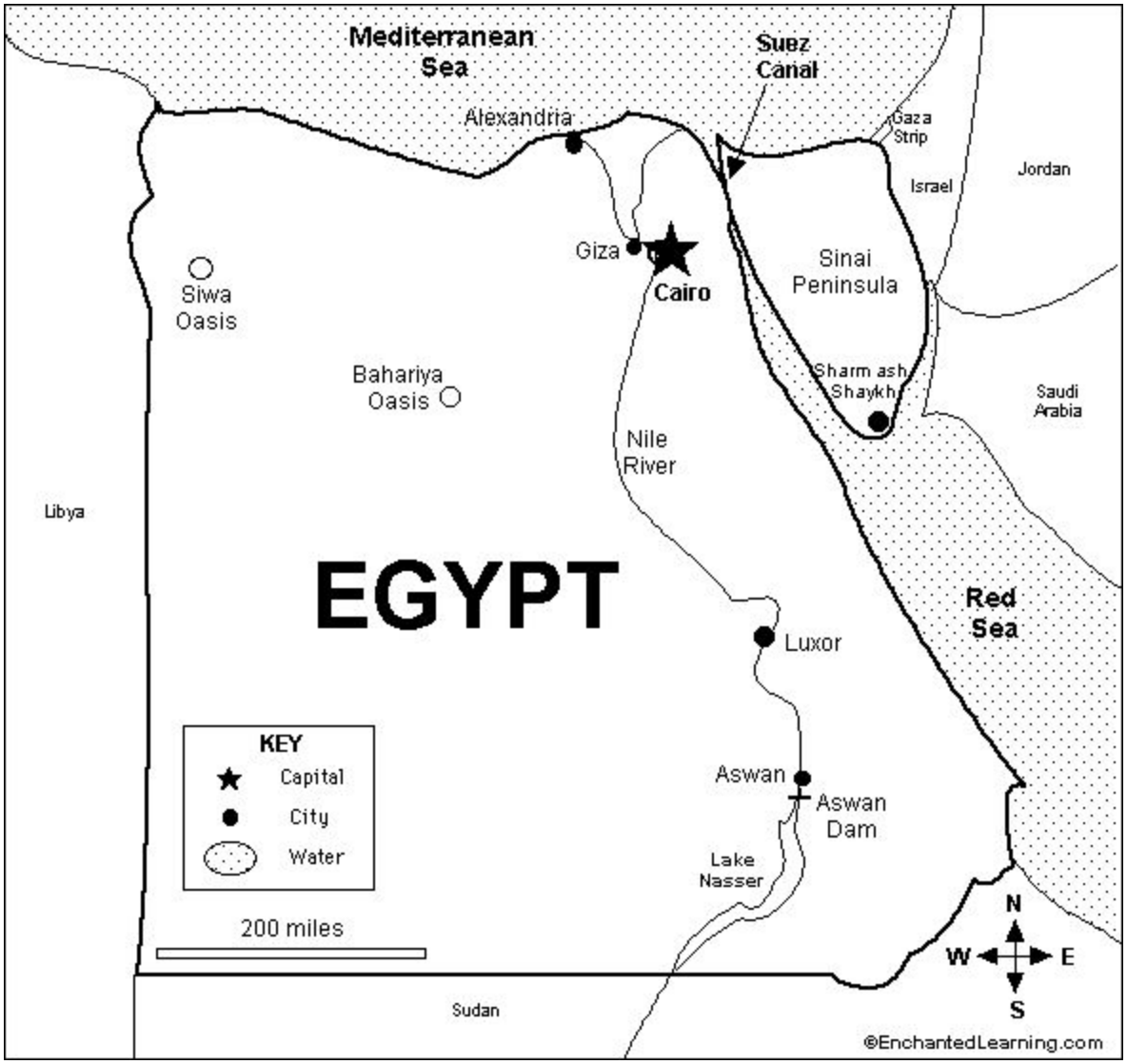
3. What direction would you travel to go from Kolkata to Hyderabad? _____

Scale Bar

4. How many miles is it from Agra to Chennai? _____

5. How many miles is it from Agra to Mumbai? _____

Map 2: Egypt *(Source: www.enchantedlearning.com)*



Map Key

1. What does the symbol of a star mean on this map? _____

Compass Rose

2. What direction would you travel to go from Alexandria to Cairo? _____

3. What direction would you travel to go from the Aswan Dam to the Bahariya Oasis? _____

Scale Bar

4. How many miles is it from Aswan to Luxor? _____

5. How many miles is it from Aswan to Giza? _____

Map 3: China *(Source: www.enchantedlearning.com)*

Map Key

1. Is Hong Kong or Beijing the capital city of China? _____

Compass Rose

2. What direction would you travel to go from Beijing to Lhasa? _____

3. What direction would you travel to go from Taipei to Shanghai? _____

Scale Bar

4. How many miles is it from Beijing to Guangzhou? _____

5. How many miles is it from Macau to Taipei? _____

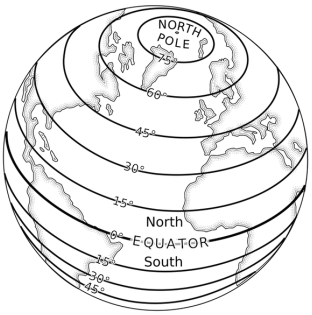
Target 3: Latitude and Longitude

Use coordinates of latitude and longitude to identify the absolute location of different places

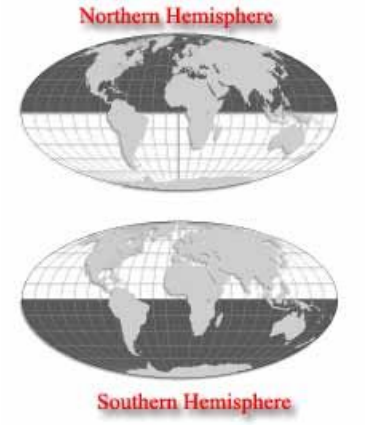
Main Idea: Absolute location is the exact place where something is found on Earth's surface. One of the ways cartographers pinpoint absolute location is by using latitude and longitude. When latitude and longitude lines appear together on the same map, they form a grid. This makes it possible to identify the precise location of any place on the Earth.

Lines of Latitude

Cartographers (mapmakers) use imaginary lines, called **latitudes,** to show the distance north or south of a place from the Equator. Latitude lines run east and west around the globe and are parallel. This means they never intersect, or meet.

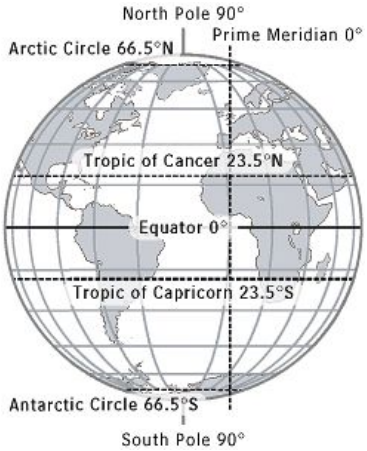


Equator: The most important latitude line is the **Equator**. Think of the Equator as a long belt that circles the Earth's waist. Other latitude lines are similar circles that are above or below the Equator. They are like stripes on Earth's pants and shirt! These latitude lines are all parallel.



Northern and Southern Hemispheres:
The half of the Earth north of the Equator is known as the Northern Hemisphere (*hemisphere* means "half circle"). The half of the Earth south of the Equator makes up the Southern Hemisphere.

The Equator is identified as 0º latitude. Each latitude line is assigned a number in degrees marking its distance from the Equator. From the top to bottom of Earth, there are 180 degrees. 90 degrees are found between the Equator and the North Pole, and the other 90 degrees are between the Equator and the South Pole. Latitudes north of the Equator have an "N" after them to show that they are lines of north latitude. Lines south of the Equator use an "S."

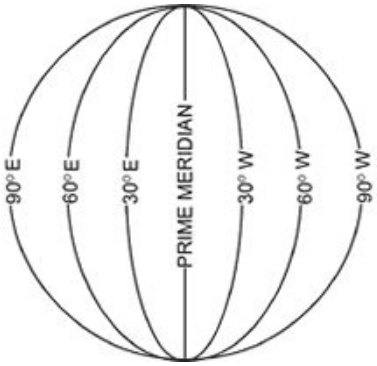


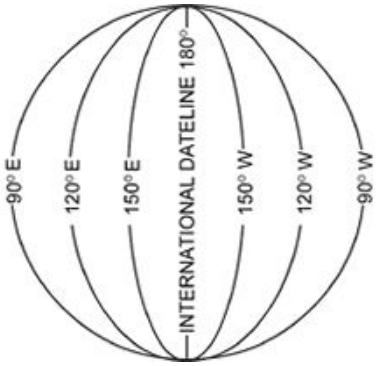
Other Important Latitude Lines:

- Tropic of Cancer: 23 ½º north of the Equator
- Tropic of Capricorn: 23 ½º south of the Equator
- Arctic Circle: 66 ½º north of the Equator (within the Arctic Circle, the sun never sets in the summer, and never rises in the winter!)
- Antarctic Circle: 66 ½º south of the Equator (within the Antarctic Circle, the sun also never sets in summer or rises in winter)

Lines of Longitude

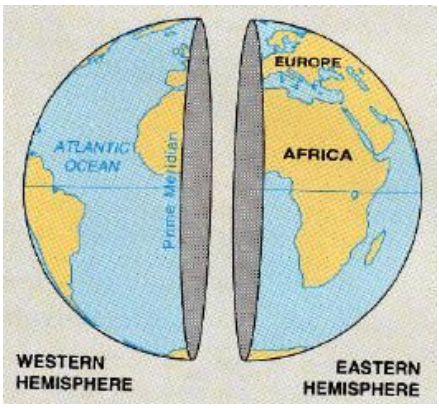
Longitudes are a set of imaginary lines that run north and south (up and down) on a map or globe from the North Pole to the South Pole. Unlike latitude lines, longitude lines (or meridians) are not parallel. They actually meet at the two Poles.





Prime Meridian: Longitude lines are used to measure distances east and west of the Prime Meridian. It is the most important longitude line. Like the Equator, the Prime Meridian divides the Earth into two hemispheres.

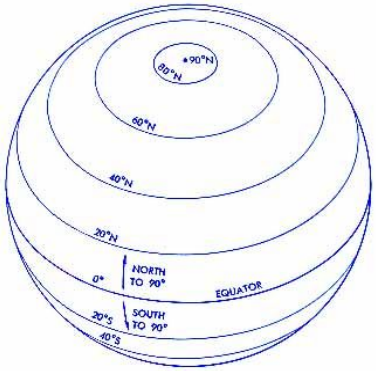
All lines west of the Prime Meridian belong to the Western Hemisphere. All lines east of the Prime Meridian are known as the Eastern Hemisphere.



The Prime Meridian is identified as zero degrees (0º) longitude. Going in either direction, we mark longitude lines as increasing from 1º to 180º, adding “E” or “W” to indicate if the line is east or west of the Prime Meridian.

How to Find the Absolute Location of a Place

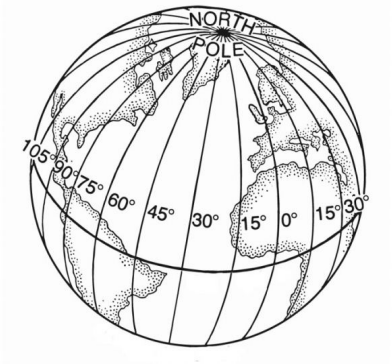
You can think of latitude like the rungs of a ladder (*ladder* sounds a lot like *latitude*). Latitude lines run east and west, but they tell how far up (north) you can go or how far down (south) you can go.



To find a **latitude** line such as 60 degrees north latitude, you must do four things:

1. Go to your starting line (the Equator).
2. Determine which direction you must go (north or south).
3. Use the “two finger trick” to see which two lines of latitude your location is in between.
4. Estimate the exact degree of latitude (like 60ºN).

When you think of longitude, think of long, tall telephone poles (because longitude lines run from pole to pole). Longitude lines run north and south, but they tell how far east or how far west you can go.



To find a **longitude** line such as 40 degrees east longitude, you must do four things:

1. Go to your starting line (the Prime Meridian).
2. Determine which direction you must go (east or west).
3. Use the “two finger trick” to see which two lines of longitude your location is in between.
4. Estimate the exact degree of longitude (like 40ºW).

Try It!
Remember: When finding absolute location, it is a geographic RULE that you must find the latitude first!

Use the map of East Asia on page 317 of your textbook to find the **latitude** for each of these cities. Label your answers **ºN** or **ºS.** Then find the **longitude** for each of these cities. Label your answers **ºE** or **ºW.**

	Latitude	**Longitude**
Tokyo, Japan		
Taipei, Taiwan		
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia		
Seoul, South Korea		
Beijing, China		

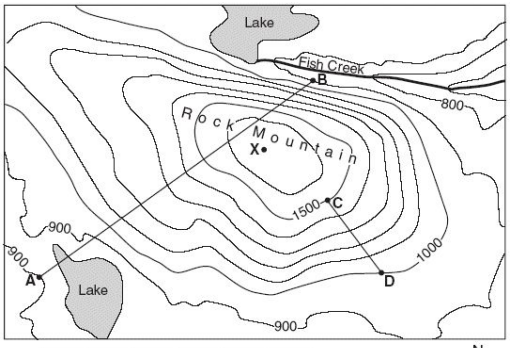
Image sources: www.worldatlas.com, www.infoplease.com, www.freepik.com

Target 4: Types of Maps

Explain the special purposes of and interpret information from different types of maps (physical, political, topographic, population density, climate, and product)

Main Idea: Cartographers, or mapmakers, use a variety of different types of maps. Each type of map serves a specific purpose. Learning to recognize and analyze the different types of maps is an important skill. Use the world maps on pages 4–13 in your textbook to look at some different types of maps and complete the chart below.

Type of map	What information does it show?	What is something interesting you observe that makes this type of map unique?	Write a question (and answer) based on this map
Physical	Natural features of an area, such as mountains, deserts, and rivers		*Example:* *What desert is located across northern Africa? (Sahara)*
Political	Boundaries and locations of countries, states, and major cities		
Population Density	How many people live on a unit of space (square mile/km) in an area; shows how *crowded* an area is		
Product (or Economic Resources)	Natural resources of an area, as well as the goods that are made there		
Climate	Average yearly temperatures and precipitation (rain, snow)		
Topographic *(not in textbook)*	Special type of physical map that shows *elevations*--how high a place is above sea level		



← Topographic Map

Source: http://peter-mulroy.squarespace.com/reading-topographic-maps/

Target 5: Geographic Tools

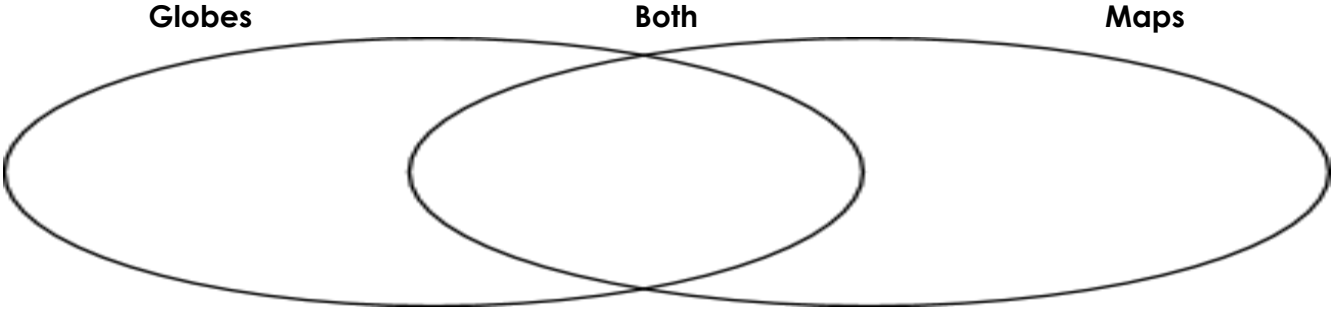
Describe and evaluate the uses of different tools and technologies used by geographers (globes, maps, GPS, GIS)

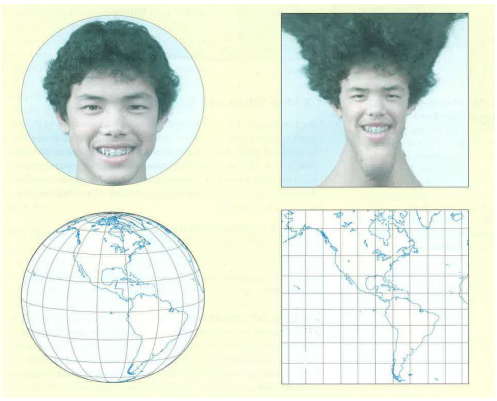
Main Idea: How's your spatial thinking? The word *spatial* comes from "space." Spatial thinking means thinking about where things are located in space. Geographers do this by using globes, maps, and other geographic tools to gather, process, and report information about people, places, and environments. By understanding the characteristics of these tools, you too will be able to read, interpret, and create maps and other geographic representations that show where things are located in space.

1) Read about globes and maps on pages 26–27 in your textbook to complete the chart and Venn diagram below.

	What are its strengths?	**What are its weaknesses?**	**When would *you* use this tool?**
Globe			
Map			

2) Use the Venn diagram below to identify THREE similarities and THREE differences you can think of with maps and globes.





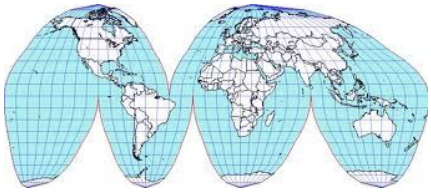
Map Projections

A **map projection** shows the spherical Earth on a flat surface. When you take a sphere, or ball, and flatten it, some kind of distortion (or mis-shaping) happens. Look what happens to the boy's head when it is "flattened" out!

There are MANY different styles for showing the Earth on a flat map, and each way has certain pros and cons.

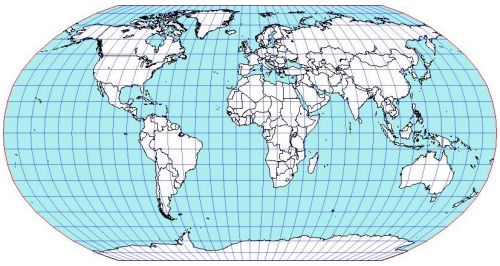
Source: Geography Alive!

Three Common Map Projections



Goode Homolosine

Mercator



Robinson

What is unique about it?	What is unique about it?	What is unique about it?

Images sources: www.georeference.org/

Geospatial Technologies: Maps and globes are no longer the only tools used by geographers (or regular people like you and me!). We'll first watch a video clip about several different technologies, then you'll read pages 30–33 in the textbook to complete the chart below.

	From the video clips: What is it? How is it helpful?	From the text: What is it? How is it helpful?
Global Positioning System (GPS)		*Three elements/parts*: 1. 2. 3.
Geographic Information Systems (GIS)		
Satellites and Sensors		

3) Look at the various map projections shown on the following pages. There are a lot of different ways to represent the earth two-dimensionally! Analyze them, then answer these two questions:

Which map projection do you think is MOST useful for students like you?

_____

Explain why.

_____

_____

__

Which map projection do you think is LEAST useful for students like you?

_____

Explain why.

_____

_____

___

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