

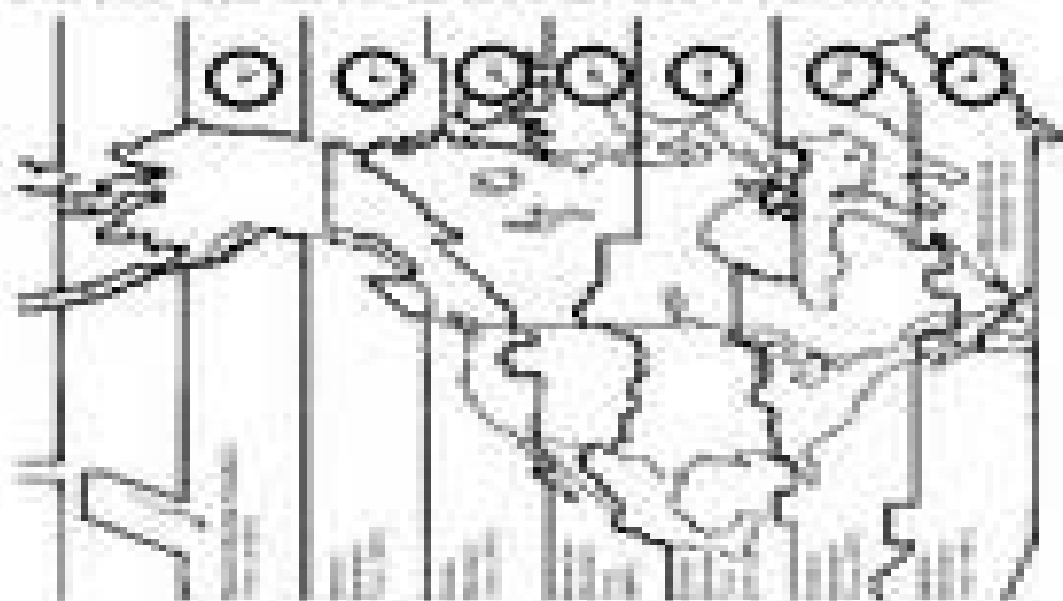


Ready to Read?

Background

Time zones were established because as the Earth rotates on its own axis, different parts are experiencing different times of the day depending on the amount of sunlight they are receiving. International conferences were held in 1884 to set time zones. The International Meridian Conference was chosen as the meeting point, which was later determined to be 0° longitude in the town of Greenwich, England. Time zones were set and labeled from there. Each offset against the time zone, and always a whole hour offset, between the two zones. When the Earth rotates, the western side (USA) has a shorter day than the eastern side of the world.

Each country has a standard time zone, but some use a 1/2 hour offset from the hour zone because that makes more sense. Across the world, the standard time zones are: North America, Central America and the Caribbean, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, and the Pacific.



Background

A time zone refers to a geographical area which has a single standard time. It is the local standard time which differs from a common standard time for other nearby locations. Standard time is a single standard across a country.