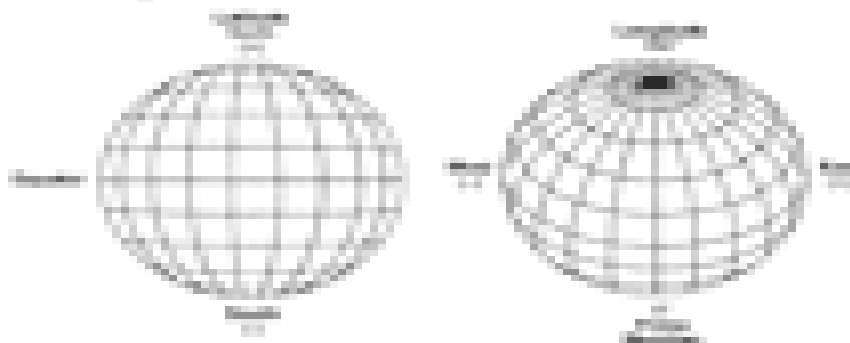


Name _____

Latitude and Longitude

The lines of latitude and longitude are the imaginary lines which are universally accepted as coordinates for locating places on the earth. They are approximately equally spaced, measuring the distance. The parallels of latitude are the east-west lines which circle the earth, while the meridians of longitude are the north-south lines which circle the earth. Each line is labeled as a degree east-west degree of latitude is equal to 60 miles from the equator approximately 1000 kilometers. As the equator, degrees of longitude are also approximately 100 kilometers apart. At the equator, the longitudinal lines become closer together. Latitudes lines range from 90° to 0° north and south, while longitudinal lines range from 0° to 180° east and west.



If your map does not have a distance scale, you can use the information to calculate approximate distance. One degree of latitude or longitude lines equals one a distance and then multiply the degree by 100 kilometers. (Be careful to consistently use numbers when you work from north to south at the Equator and from east to west at the Prime Meridian.)

Using the information above and the map on the next page, answer the mathematical problems below.

1. Approximately how many kilometers is it from the Equator to Mexico, Texas? _____
2. Approximately how many kilometers long is South America? _____
3. Approximately how many kilometers is it from Mexico City to Cape Horn, South Africa? _____
4. Approximately how far is it from the coast of Africa to the coast of South America at the Equator? _____
5. Approximately how far is it around the earth at the Equator? _____
6. Find two countries on the map which are approximately 1,000 kilometers apart.
7. Make up five of your own problems using map coordinates and map scale a friend.