Hemispheres, Political Maps, Physical Maps

Hemispheres

__Hemispheres__ are sections of the Earth. There are a total of four hemispheres. The Earth is made up of hemispheres that are divided along the __Equator__ and __Prime Meridian__.

Latitude and Longitude

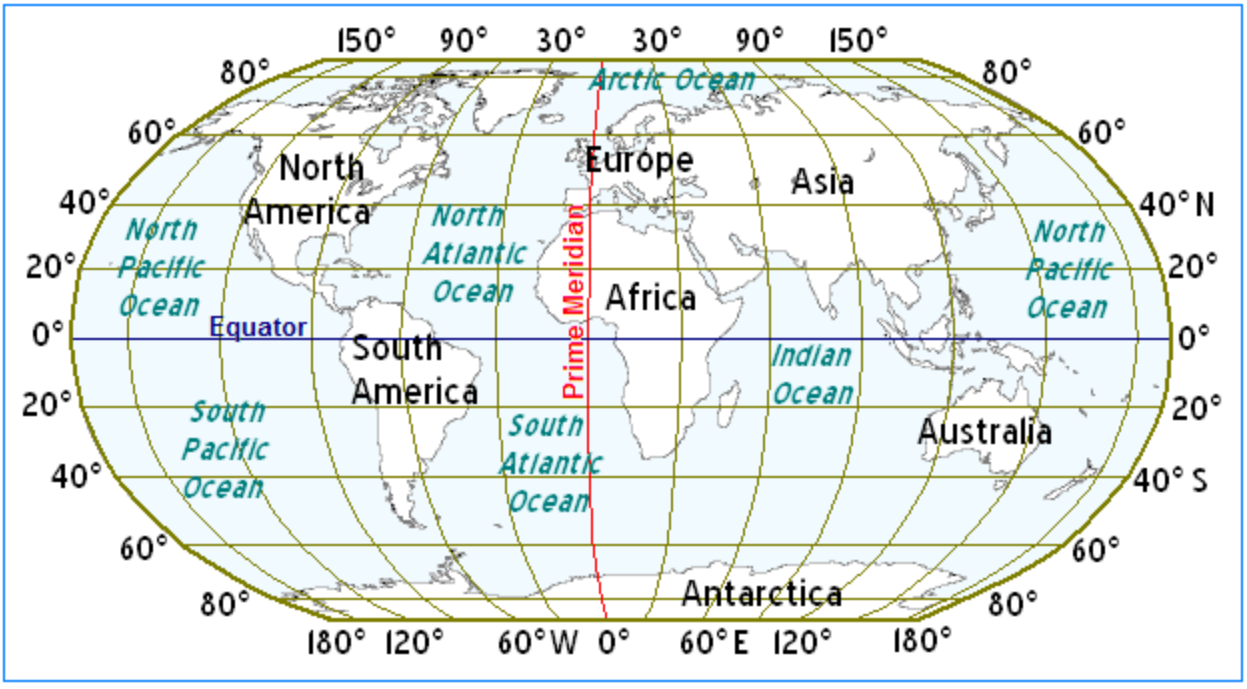
Line of Latitude— A line of latitude is a reference line that runs parallel to the equator's plane. Lines are measured as an angle from the equator of the Earth (0°) to the North Pole (90° North) or to the South Pole (90° South).

Line of Longitude— A line of longitude is a reference line that runs from the North Pole to the South Pole. Lines are measured as an angle from the Prime Meridian (0°) to 180° East or to 180° West.

Equator—the line of 0° latitude that divides the Northern and Southern Hemispheres

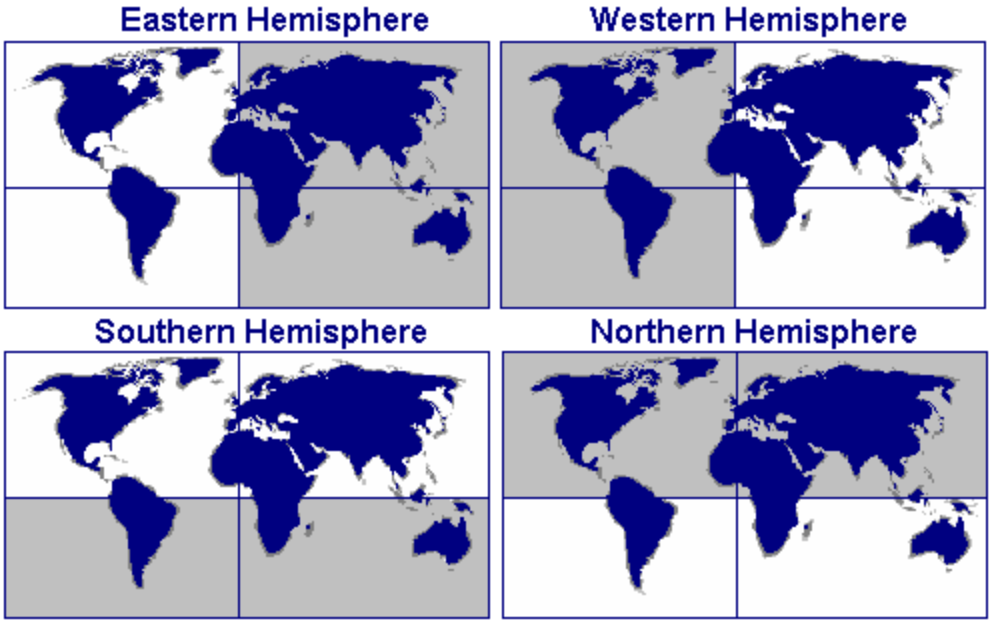
International Date Line— an imaginary line that runs from the North Pole to the South Pole that marks the change from one calendar day to the next

Prime Meridian—the line of 0° longitude that divides the Eastern and Western Hemispheres



Hemispheres

Hemispheres are sections of the Earth. The four hemispheres are shown below in grey.



Poles

Poles are the most northern and southern parts of the Earth. The **north pole** is the most northern part of the Earth. The **south pole** is the most southern part of the Earth.



Physical and Political Maps

Different types of maps are used to show many types of information. Some types of maps include political maps and physical maps.

Political Maps

Political maps show the borders that divide cities, states, or countries. Some maps use different colors to show the separate states or countries. The map below shows the states in the southeastern part of the United States.



Physical Maps

Physical maps show the Earth's landforms such as deserts and mountains, and bodies of water. The maps use lines, shading, tints, spot elevations, and different colors to show elevation and distinguish physical features. The map below shows physical features found in the state of California.



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