

Name/Date:
Geography 12



1C: Common Map & Globe Features



Photo: 1780 world (mercator projection) from the Yale University Map Collection. Source: <http://www.library.yale.edu/MapColl/>

Summary

This lesson will examine common cartographic features and standard divisions and measurements used with globes and map projections. A basic understanding of latitude, longitude, direction, scale, and projection will help students interpret maps and associate information with places. Maps are essentially stories, ways of narrating information, events, decisions, values, differences, conflict, agreement, natural phenomenon, and human drama.

References

- various in
- Vanzant, P. et al (2010). *This Earth: Physical Geography and the Environment*. Toronto: Emond Montgomery
 - Ch. 3 (p. 42-65) in Birchall, G., McCutcheon, J. (1993). *Planet Earth: A Physical Geography*. Toronto: John Wiley & Sons
 - Various vocab in Whittow, J. (1984). *Dictionary of physical geography*. London: Penguin Books

Maps...

Maps are close to the heart of geography. Maps are the literature of place, they tell the story of physical and human characteristics situated in a particular place and time, they “flatten” landscapes in the same way a good book gives glimpses into lives and events.

Vocabulary (be familiar with these terms; define briefly, use an example or simple diagram)

- latitude

- longitude

- direction

- scale

- cartography

- map projection
- topography/topographic map
- GIS
- GPS

Sample test question

Use the following table to answer question 1.

Skills: surveying map plotting contouring techniques geographic information systems (GIS)
--

1. Which career is based upon an expert knowledge of the skills above?
- A. ranchers
 - B. cartographers
 - C. meteorologists
 - D. horticulturalists

Activity (for notes! not an assignment... rough is o.k. -- try it first without an atlas)

On a map of the world label the following geographic co-ordinates / lines

- International Date Line
- Prime Meridian
- Equator
- Tropic of Cancer (+ give its latitude)
- Tropic of Capricorn (+ give its latitude)
- Arctic Circle (+ give its latitude)
- Antarctic Circle (+ give its latitude)
-

Also, if your world geography is a bit shaky, locate and label

- 7 Continents
- 4 Oceans
- Canada, USA, Mexico, Brazil
- Britain, France, Germany, Russia
- Japan, China, India, Afghanistan, Iran
- Egypt, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand

MERCATOR PROJECTION OF THE WORLD

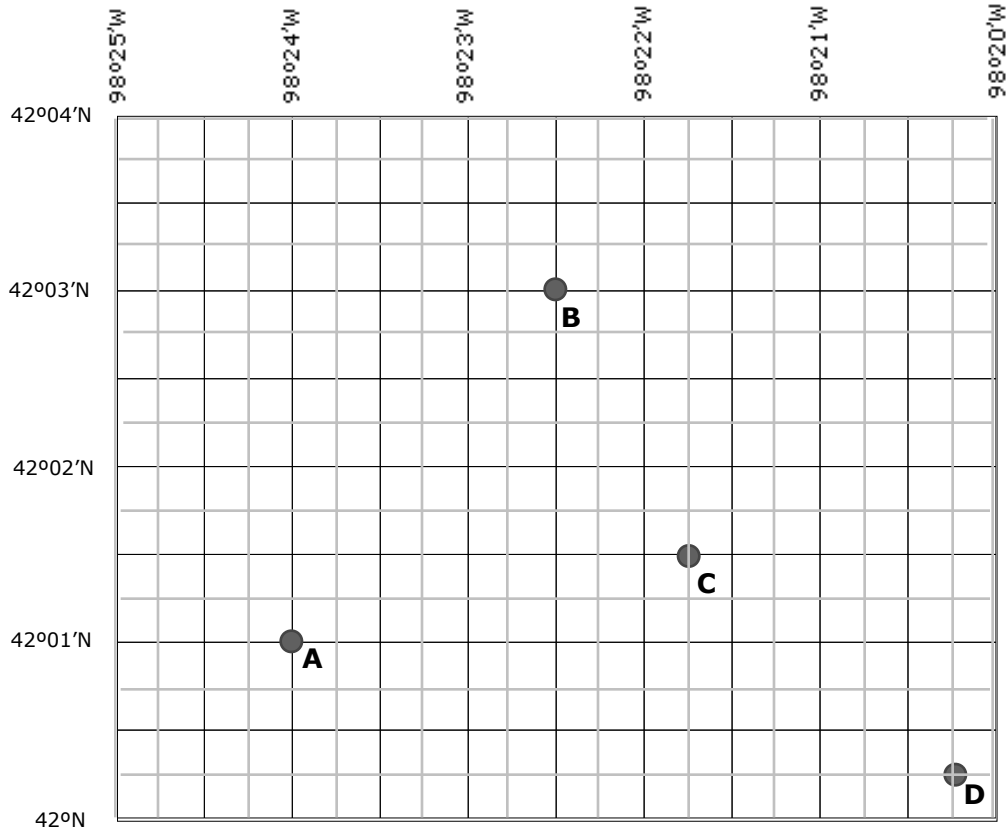


Latitude & Longitude shown as Grid Coordinates e.g. Prince George = 53°55'01" N, 122°44'58" W

Find the latitude and longitude of the following points. Each degree (°) has 60 minutes ('), each minute has 60 seconds ("). Thus the lines in the grid below between *minutes* are divided into sections of 15 *seconds*.

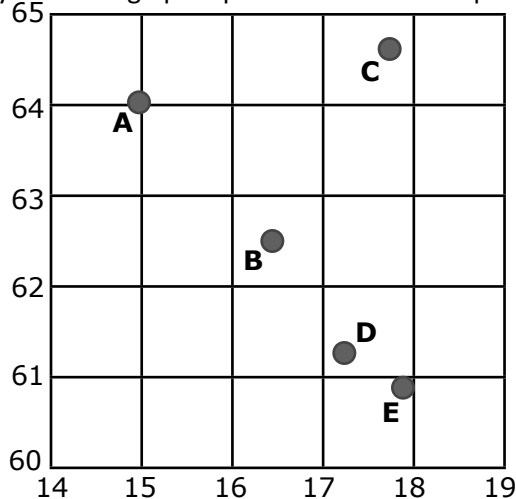
A. _____ B. _____

C. _____ D. _____



Numbered Grid Reference

Another way of dividing up map lines is to use a simple grid, like battleship or a military grid.



Do E-W first, then N-S (always 6 digits)

Location A is 150640

Location B is 165625

Location C is _____

Location D is _____

Location E is _____