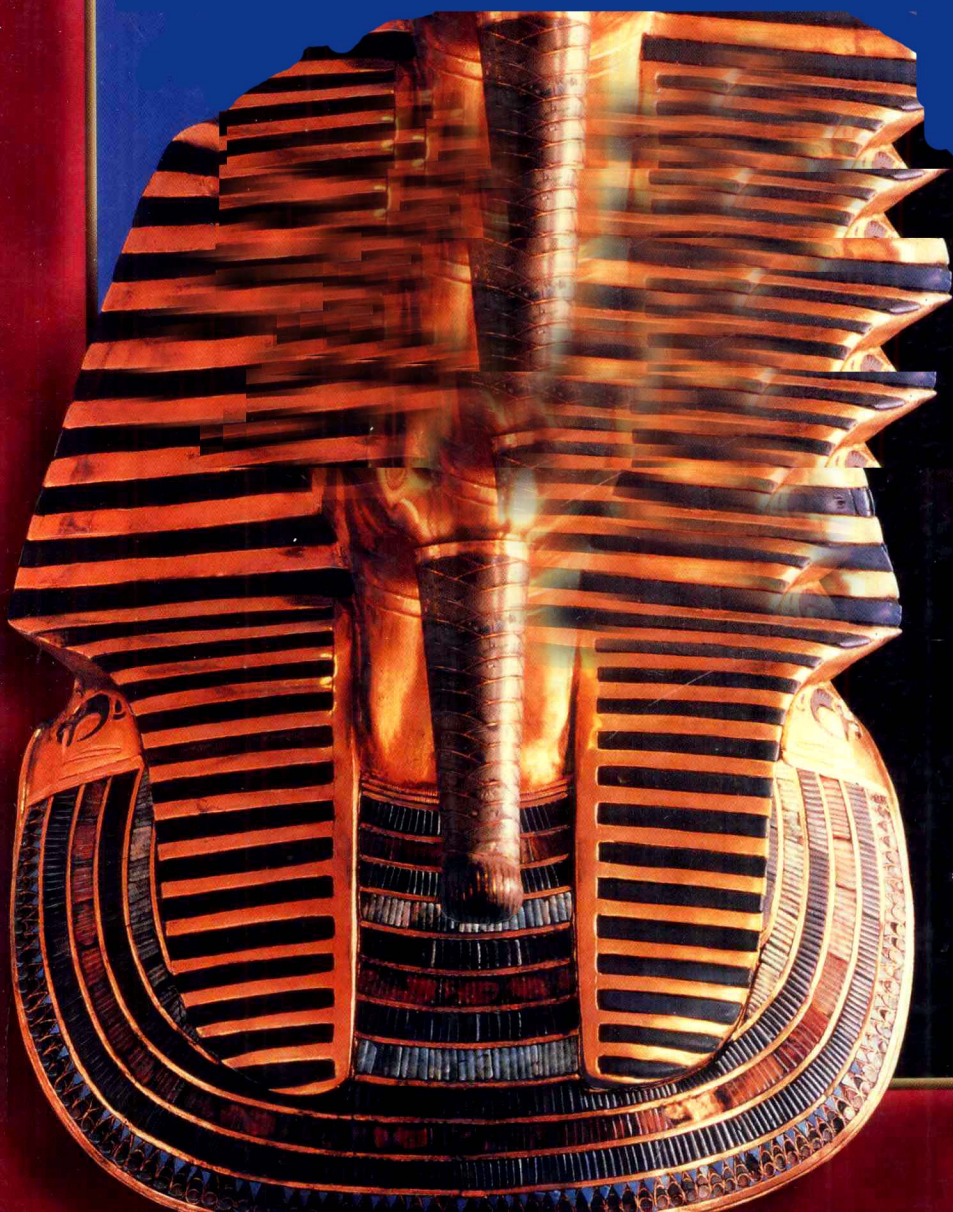


*Includes Multimedia Activities*

# World



 NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC  
SOCIETY

Farah  
Karls



# World History

THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE

## THE EARLY AGES



**Mounir A. Farah**  
**Andrea Berens Karls**





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The **National Geographic Society**, founded in 1888 for the increase and diffusion of geographic knowledge, is the world's largest nonprofit scientific and educational organization. Since its earliest days, the Society has used sophisticated communication technologies and rich historical and archival resources to convey knowledge to a worldwide membership. The Educational Media Division supports the Society's mission by developing innovative educational programs—ranging from traditional print materials to multimedia programs including CD-ROMs, videodiscs, and software.

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### About the Cover

The mask of the Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamen was created c. 1342 B.C. The mask is made of gold, and is decorated with gems and precious stones. It was discovered in 1924 by the archaeologist Howard Carter during his exploration of Tutankhamen's tomb.

The cathedral of Saint Basil the Blessed was

built in Moscow between 1554 and 1560. Ivan the Terrible ordered the cathedral's construction to give thanks to God for Russia's recent military victories. Two Russian architects, Posnik and Barma, designed the church, which is located on Red Square. It has ten colorful domes and is a magnificent example of the Byzantine architectural style.

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Design and Production: DECODE, Inc.

Cover photograph: Mask of Tutankhamen: Egyptian National Museum, Cairo, Egypt/Superstock;  
Cathedral of Basil the Blessed: Superstock

Send all inquiries to:

Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 8787 Orion Place, Columbus, Ohio 43240

ISBN 0-02-664151-8 (Student Edition) ISBN 0-02-664152-6 (Teacher's Wraparound Edition)

Printed in the United States of America.

3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 071/043 05 04 03 02



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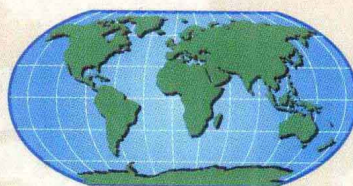
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# What Is



# Geography?

**T**he story of humanity begins with **geography**—the study of the earth in all of its variety. Geography concerns the earth's land, water, and plant and animal life. It also tells you about the people who live on the earth, the places they have created, and how these places differ. The earth is a planet of diverse groups of people. A study of geography can help you see why the people of the earth are so diverse.

## The Five Themes of Geography

The study of geography can be organized around five themes: **location**, **place**, **human/environment interaction**, **movement**, and **region**. Geographers use these five themes to study and classify all parts of the earth and its variety of human activity.

## Geography and World History

World geography is especially important to the study of world history.

Historians use geography to explain connections between the past and the present. They study how places

looked in the past, how places and patterns of human activity have changed over time, and how geographic forces have influenced these changes.

## GLOBES AND MAPS

### Globes

Photographs from space show the earth in its true form—a great ball spinning around the sun. The only accurate way to draw the earth is as a globe, or a round form. A globe gives a true picture of the earth's size and the shape of the earth's landmasses and bodies of water. Globes also show the true distances and true directions between places.

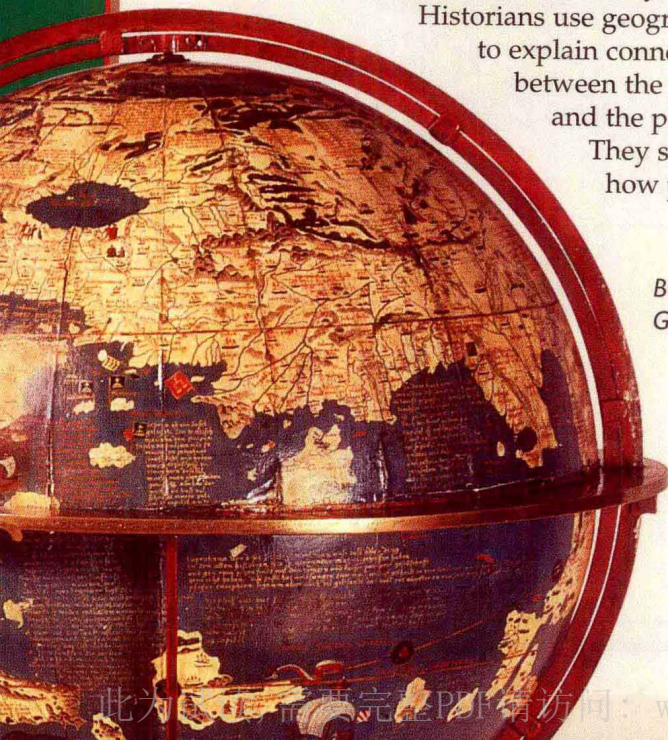
### Maps

A map is a flat drawing of the earth's surface. People use maps to locate places, plot routes, and judge distances. Maps can also display useful information about the world's peoples.

What advantages does a map have over a globe? Unlike a globe, a map allows you to see all areas of the world at the same time. Maps also show much more detail and can be folded and more easily carried.

Maps, however, have their drawbacks. As you can imagine, drawing a round object on a flat surface is very difficult. Cartographers, or mapmakers, have drawn many **projections**, or kinds of maps. Each map projection is a different way of showing the round earth on a flat map. This is because it is impossible to draw a round planet on a flat surface without distorting or misrepresenting some parts of the earth. As a result, each kind of map projection has some distortion. Typical distortions involve distance, direction, shape, and/or area.

*Behaim's  
Globe*





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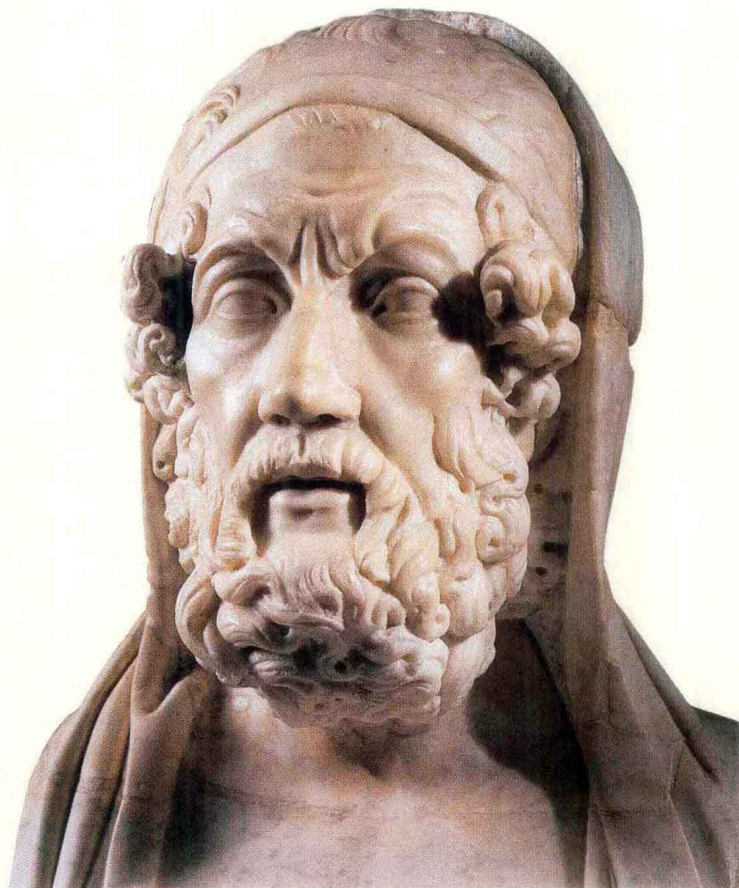
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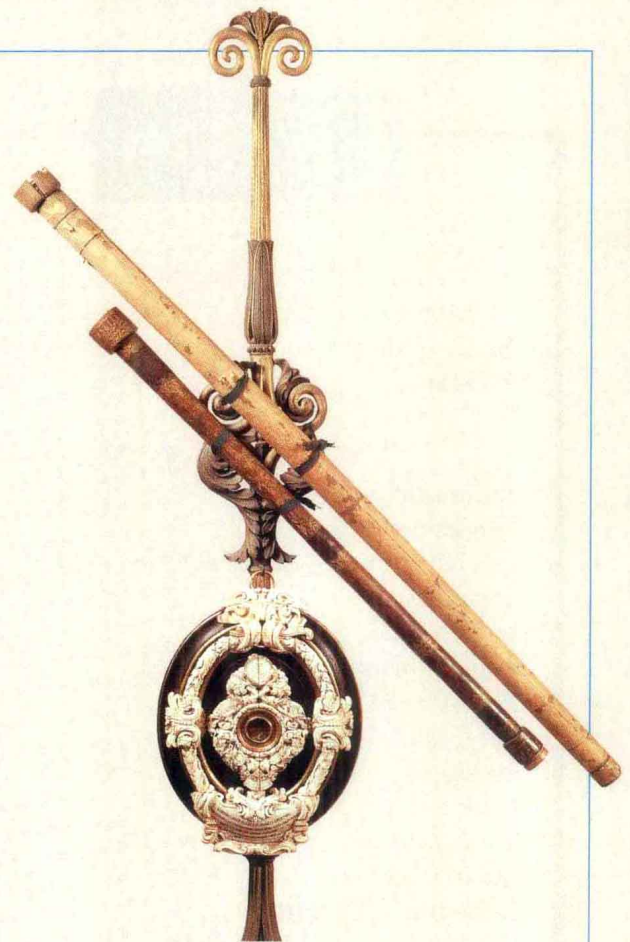
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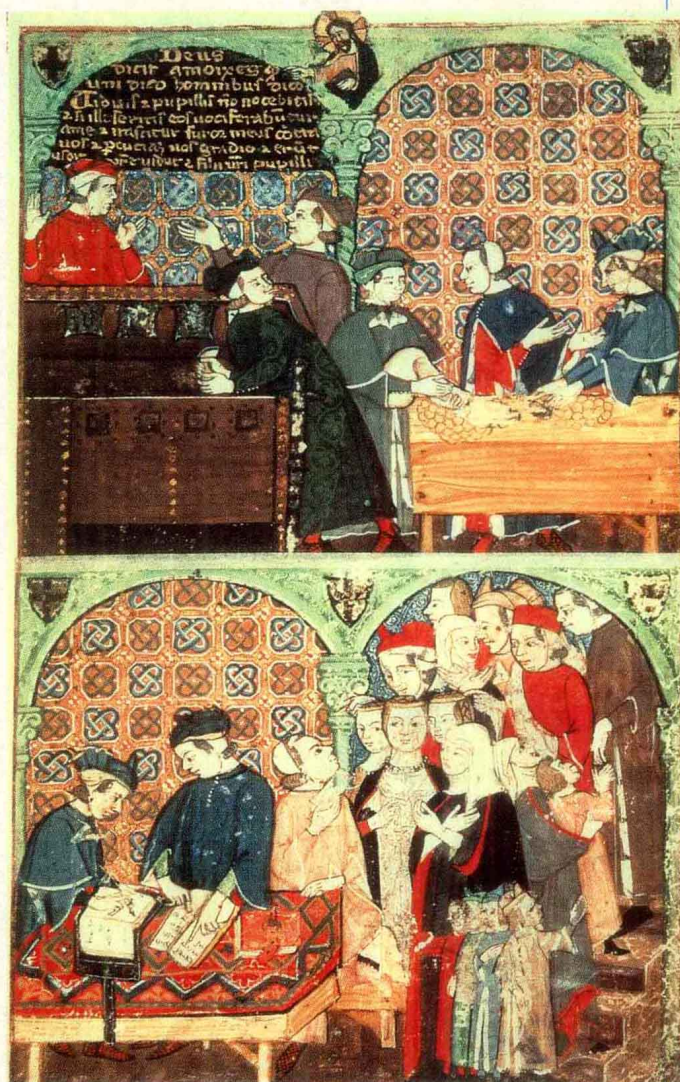




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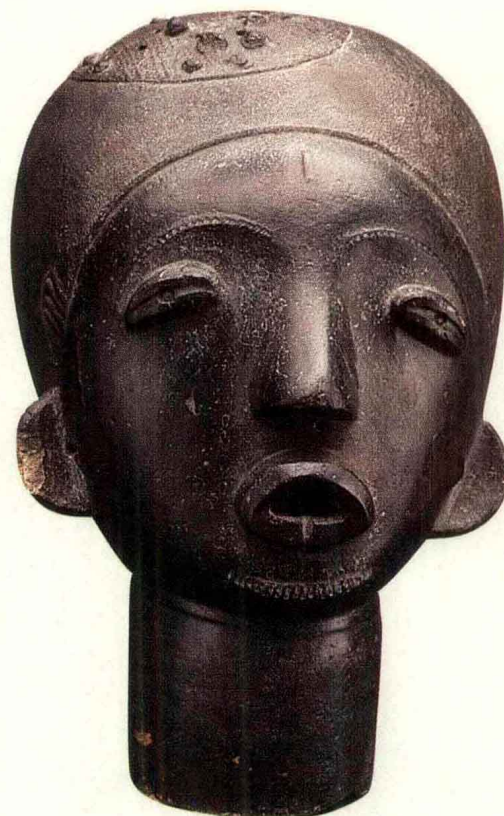
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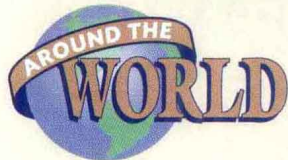
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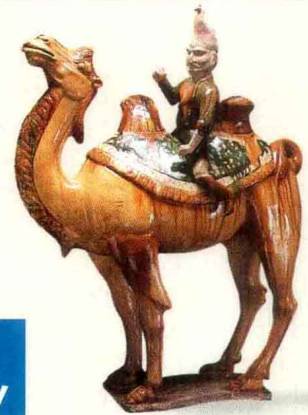
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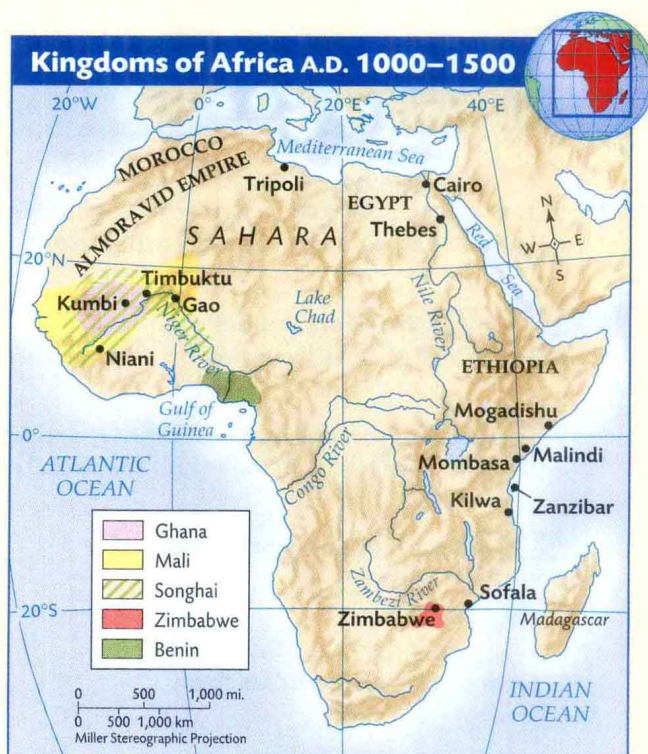
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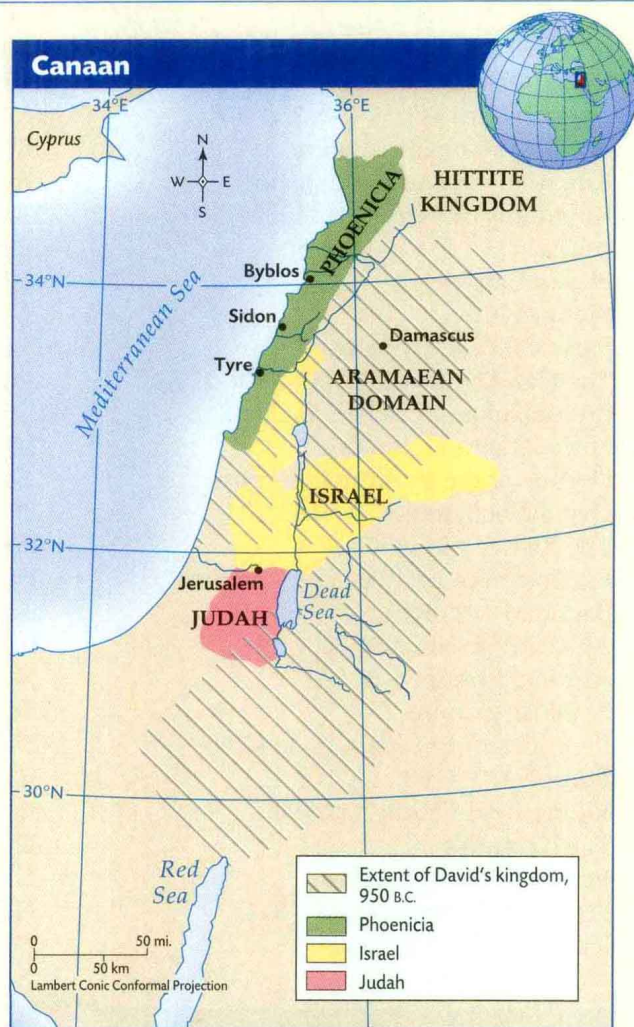
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## Early India's Social System

### **Brahmans** Priests

Study and teach the Vedas, perform religious ceremonies to please Aryan deities and ensure welfare of people

### **Kshatriyas** Warriors, rulers

Study the Vedas, lead government, and head army

### **Vaisyas** Common people: merchants, artisans, farmers

Tend herds, care for land; make and sell useful products

### **Sudras** Unskilled laborers, servants

Serve other varnas

### **Pariahs** Slaves

Perform tasks considered unclean



Each group as a proportion of the total population



Varnas



Group outside varnas



## The Hemispheres

To determine location, distance, and direction on a map or globe, geographers have developed a network of imaginary lines that crisscross the earth. One of these lines, the **Equator**, circles the earth midway between the **North Pole** and the **South Pole**. It divides the earth into "half spheres," or **hemispheres**. The Northern Hemisphere includes all of the land and water between the Equator and the North Pole. The Southern Hemisphere includes all of the land and water between the Equator and the South Pole.

Another imaginary line running from north to south divides the earth into half spheres in the other direction. This line is called the **Prime Meridian**. Every place east of the Prime Meridian is in the Eastern Hemisphere. Every place west of the Prime Meridian is in the Western Hemisphere.

## Latitude and Longitude

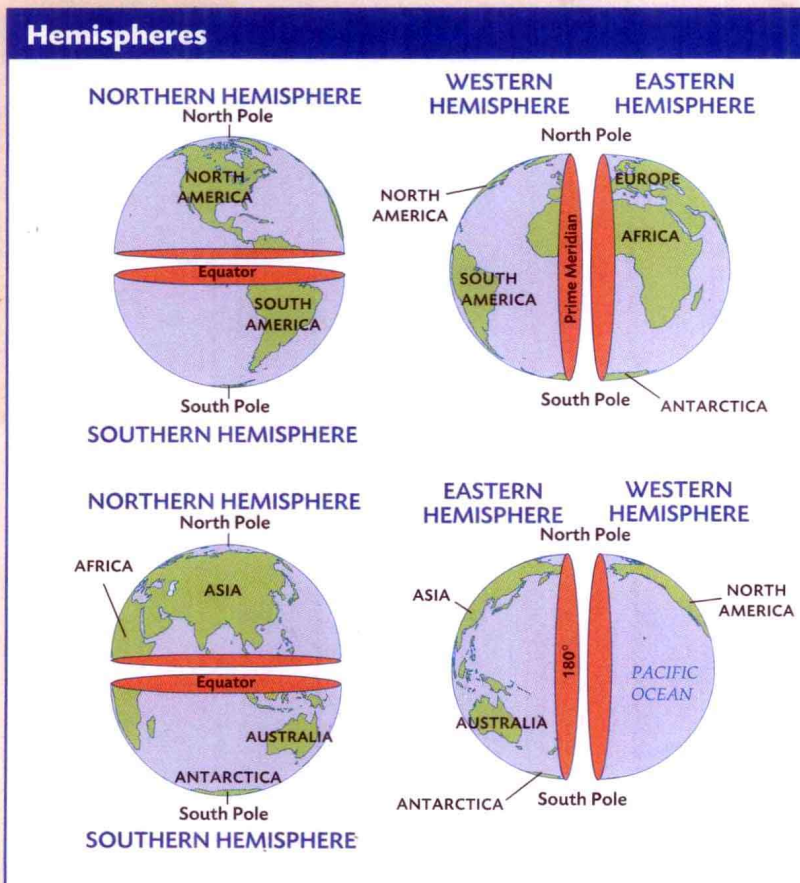
The Equator and the Prime Meridian are the starting points for two sets of lines used to

find any location. The two sets measure distances north or south of the Equator, and east and west of the Prime Meridian.

One set of lines called **parallels** circle the earth and show **latitude**, which is distance measured in degrees (°) north and south of the Equator at 0° latitude. The letter *N* or *S* following the degree symbol tells you if the location is north or south of the Equator. The North Pole is at 90° North (*N*) latitude, and the South Pole is at 90° South (*S*) latitude.

Two important parallels in between the poles are the **Tropic of Cancer** at 23 1/2°N latitude and the **Tropic of Capricorn** at 23 1/2°S latitude. You can also find the **Arctic Circle** at 66 1/2°N latitude and the **Antarctic Circle** at 66 1/2°S latitude.

The second set of lines called **meridians** run north to south from the North Pole to the South Pole. These lines signify **longitude**, which is distance measured in degrees east (*E*) or west (*W*) of the Prime Meridian at 0° longitude. On the opposite side of the earth is the International Date Line, at about the 180° meridian.



## The Grid System

Lines of latitude and longitude cross one another in the form of a **grid system**. You can use the grid system to find where places are exactly located on a map or globe. Each place on Earth has an address on the grid. This grid address is the place's **coordinates**—its degrees of latitude and longitude. For example, the coordinates of the city of San Francisco are 38°N latitude and 122°W longitude. This means that San Francisco lies about 38 degrees (°) north of the Equator and 122 degrees (°) west of the Prime Meridian. Where those two lines cross is called the **absolute location** of the city.

## Map Symbols

Maps can direct you down the street, across the country, or around the world. There are as many different kinds of maps as there are uses for them. Being