Unit 1:
Basics of Geography

Chapter 1: Looking at the Earth

Chapter 1, Section 1:
The 5 Themes of Geography

What is Geography?

- Greek: geographia
  - "earth writing"
- Study of the distribution and interaction of physical and human features on the earth
- Maps are the #1 tool of a geographer

The 5 Themes of Geography

- Location
  - Where is it?
- Place
  - What is it like?
- Region
  - How are places similar/different?
- Movement
  - How do people, goods, and ideas move from one location to another?
- Human-Environment Interaction
  - How do people relate to the physical world?

Location

- "Where is it?"
- Absolute location
  - Exactly where a place can be found
- Relative location
  - Describes a place in comparison to other places around it
- Compass directions, latitude, longitude

Place

- “What is it like?”
- Physical features and cultural characteristics of a location
- Physical features:
  - Climate, landforms, vegetation, man-made structures
- Cultural features:
  - Language, religion, ethnicity, race, etc.

Region

- “How are places similar/different?”
- Area of earth’s surface with similar characteristics.
  - Physical, political, economic, cultural
- 3 types of regions:
  - Formal, functional, perceptual/vernacular

Region

- Formal:
  - Continental area and similar cultural styles
    - Latin America: where its located on the globe, language, religion, etc.
    - South Carolina: Mostly Christian, Republican, have specific laws regarding issues that apply only to SC citizens (taxes, education, marriage)

Region

- Functional (nodal):
  - Interactions and connections between places
  - Usually involves a hub and then links places to that
    - Newspaper region
    - Television region

Region

- Perceptual/Vernacular:
  - How people perceive the region in some way
  - Cultural
    - Dialect:
      - y'all vs. you guys vs. you'uns
      - Shopping cart vs. buggy

Human-Environment Interaction

- “How do people relate to the physical world?”
- People use what their environment offers them and change the environment to meet their needs.

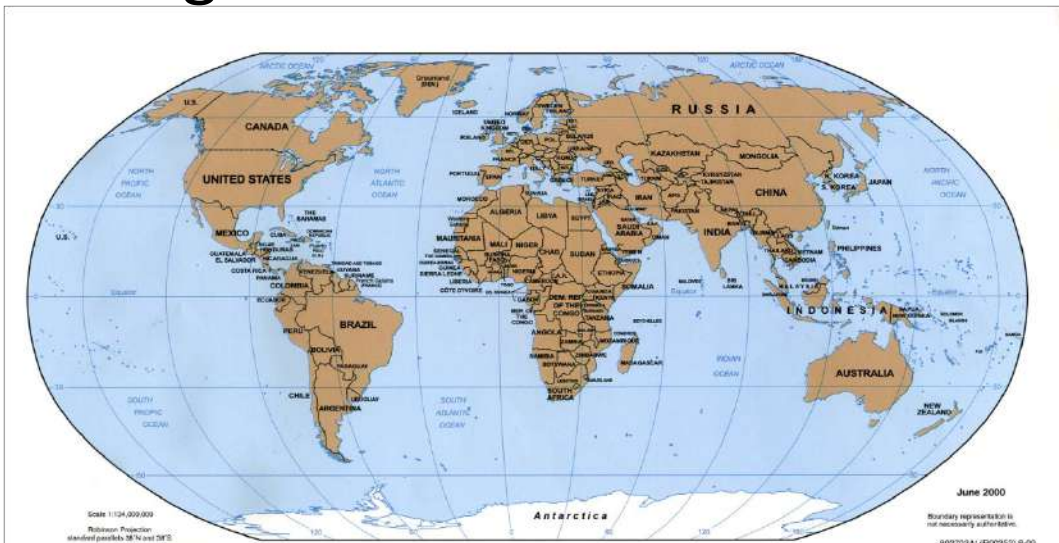
Movement

- “How do people, goods, and ideas move from one location to another?”
- How things move from place to place
  - How/why people migrate
  - Where clothing and food come from
  - How/why does music spread

Chapter 1, Section 2:
The Geographer's Tools

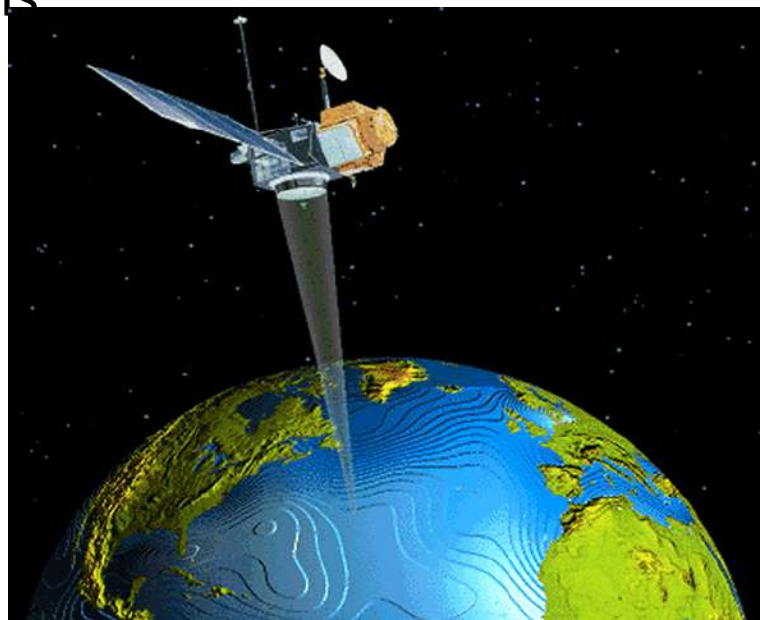
Maps and Globes

- Globe: 3-D representation of the earth
- Maps: 2-D representation of the earth's surface
  - Cartographer: mapmaker
  - Projection: way of drawing the earth's surface



Mapmaking

- Surveying
  - Observe, measure, record what is found in an area
    - Aerial photography
    - Satellite
    - Geographic Information Systems
    - Global Position System



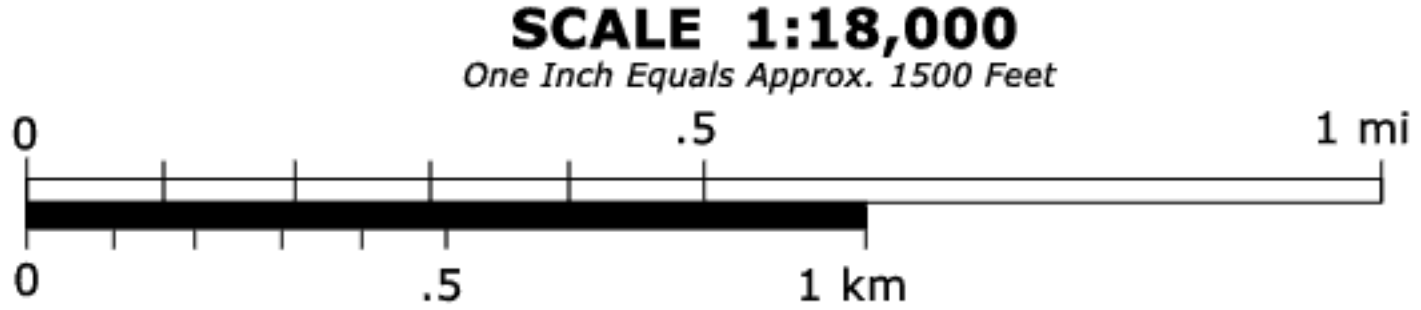
Must Know Information About Maps!!!

Scale

- The scale of a map shows the distance and detail of an area.
- Small scale: large area, not much detail
  - Ex: Map of the country
- Large scale: small area, lots of detail
  - Ex: Map of your house

Scale

- Ratio scale:
  - 1: 10,000
    - One inch = 10,000 miles
- Bar Scale
- Written Scale:
  - One inch is equal to ten thousand miles



Types of Maps

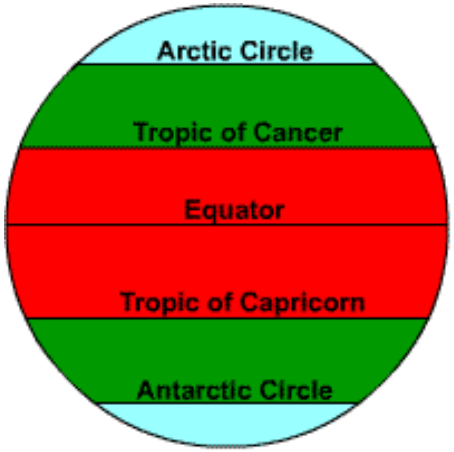
- Physical maps: show landforms
- Political maps: show features that are manmade
- Topographic maps: show landforms in a 3-D version

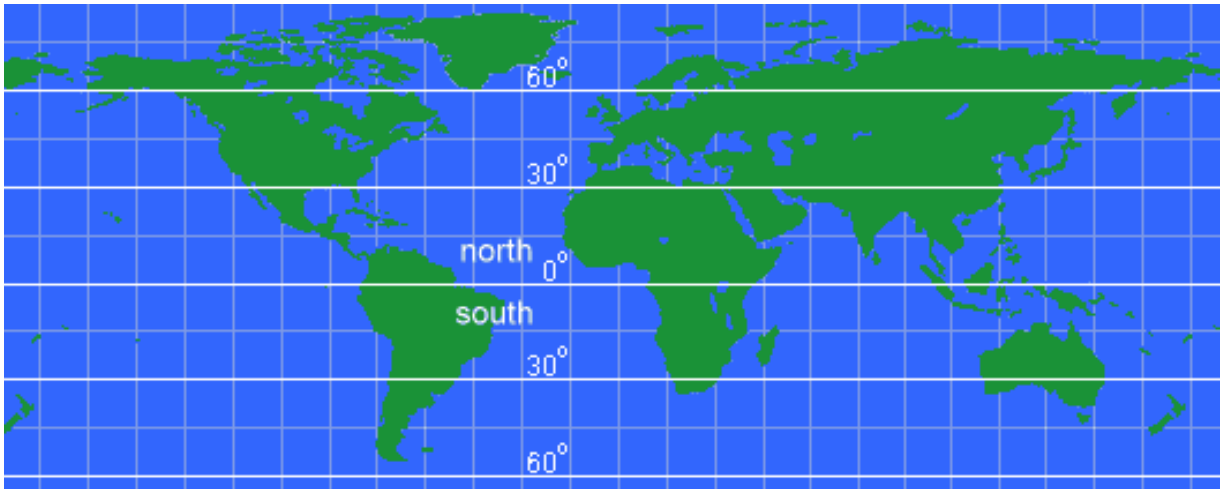
How to Read a Map

- Compass Direction: North, South, West, East
  - Absolutely necessary to navigate!!

How to Read a Map

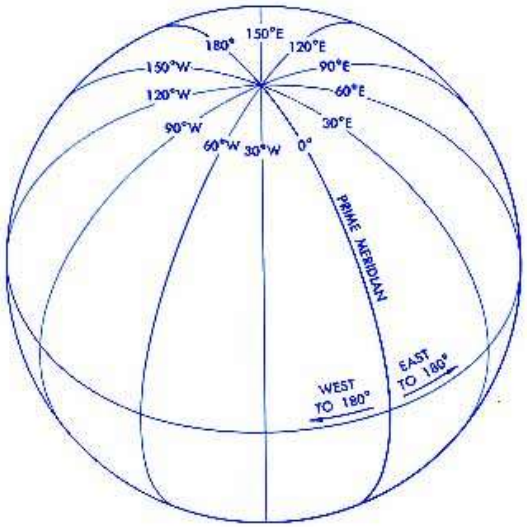
- Latitude Lines: these lines show direction **North** and **South** of the **Equator**.
  - Run horizontally across a map
  - Sometimes called **parallels**
  - 0 degrees to 90 degrees (north and south)

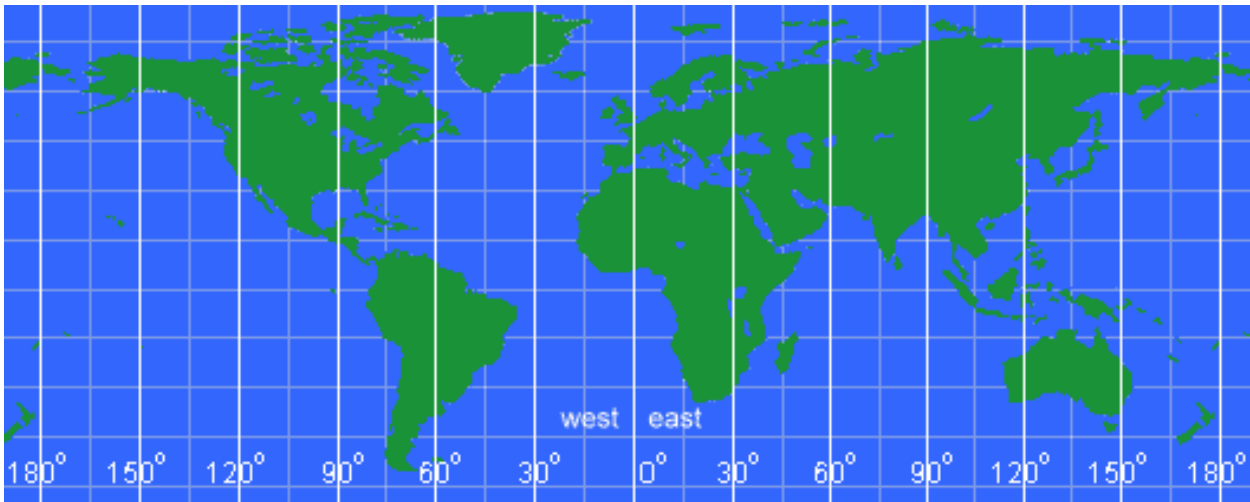


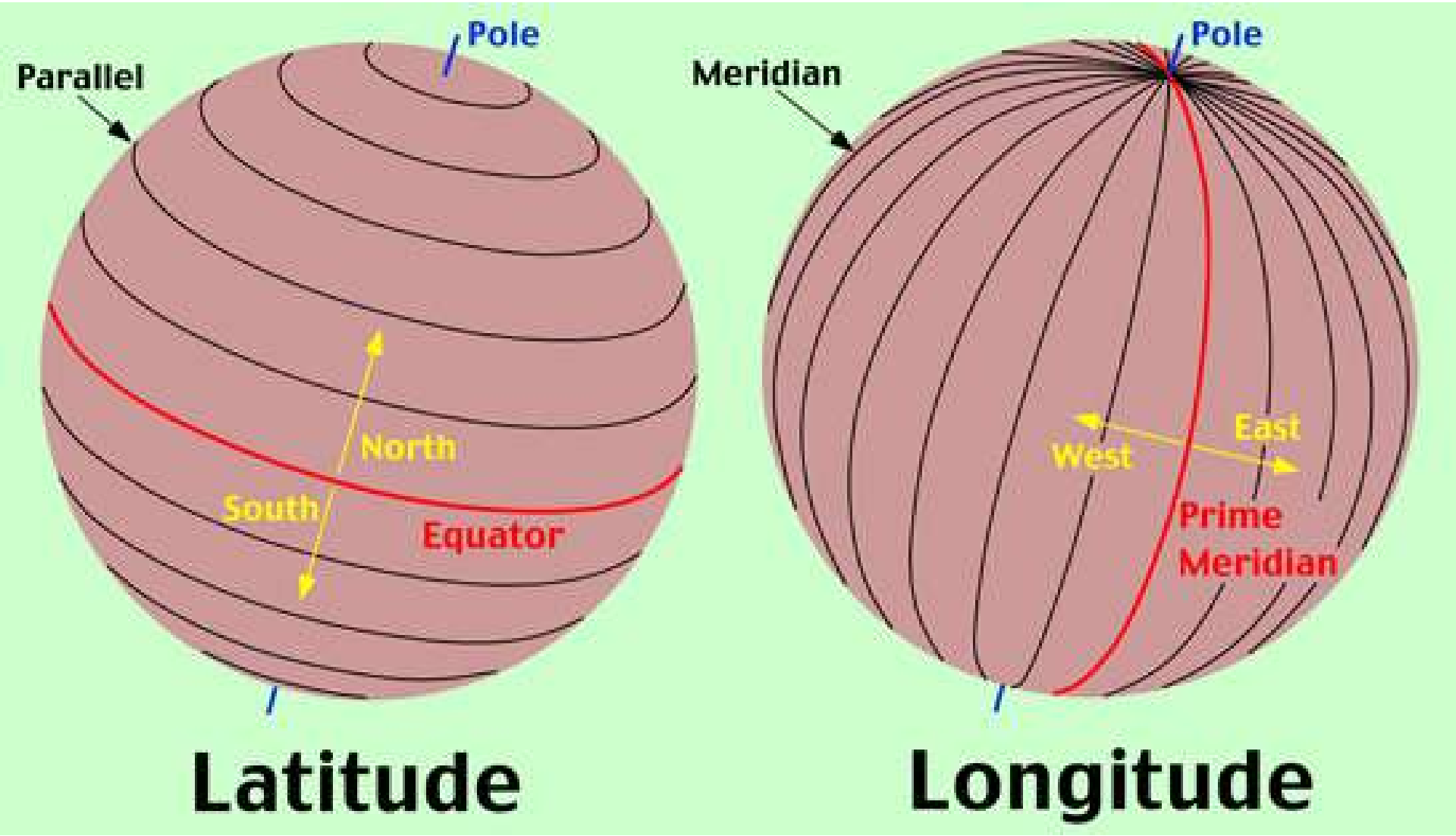


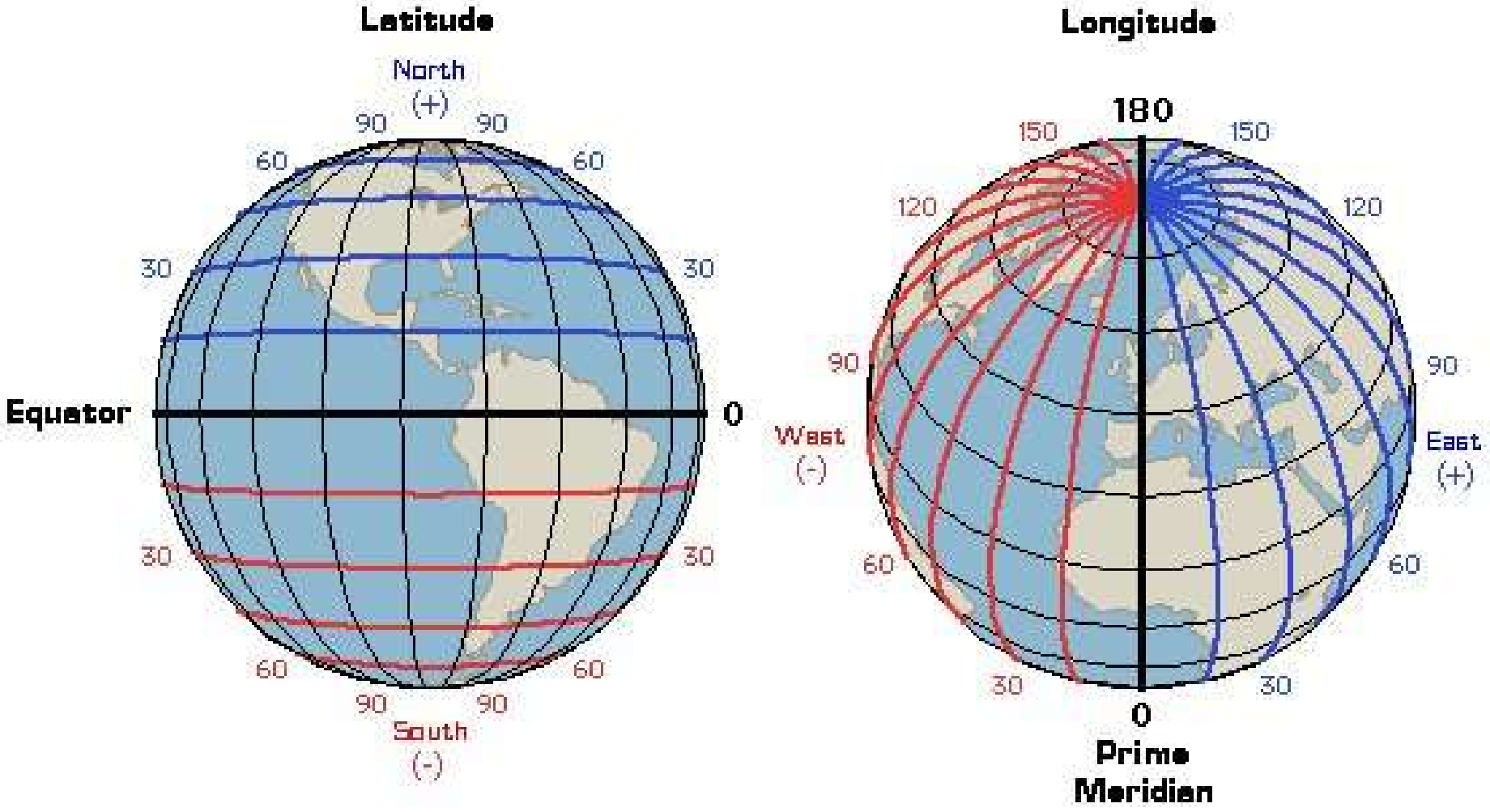
How to Read a Map

- Longitude Lines: these lines show direction **East** **and** **West** of the **Prime Meridian**.
  - Run vertically across a map
  - Sometimes called **meridians**
  - 0 degrees to 180 degrees (east and west)






Pole
Parallel
North
South
Equator
Pole
Meridian
West
East
Prime
Meridian
Latitude
Longitude


Latitude
North
(+)
90
90
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60
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Equator
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South
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Longitude
180
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West
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East
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Prime
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