



CLASS 6 SOCIAL SCIENCE · 2026-27

The Earth, globes and maps

Geography

30

QUESTIONS

25

MINUTES

3

EXERCISES

This belongs to _____ Date _____

WHAT YOU'LL GET GOOD AT

- Tells latitude from longitude and says what each measures
- Distinguishes rotation from revolution by what each causes
- Reads the four elements a map needs to be usable

Take your time, and have a go at every one. If you get stuck, look at the orange box — Ollie has already done one for you.

The Earth, globes and maps

Geography · 30 questions · tick each box as you finish

Exercise 1 of 3 · 11 questions Latitude or longitude? Write which, and what it measures. ☐

WRITE THE ANSWER

HERE'S ONE DONE FOR YOU

Lines running east to west -> latitude. A useful memory hook: lines of latitude lie flat like the rungs of a ladder, and 'lat' sounds like 'flat'. Longitude lines are the long ones running pole to pole. Children mix these up constantly, and this one hook usually settles it for good.

1) Lines running east to west, parallel to each other

2) Lines running from pole to pole

3) The Equator

4) The Prime Meridian

5) The Tropic of Cancer

6) The Tropic of Capricorn

7) The Arctic Circle

8) The line at 180 degrees, opposite the Prime Meridian

9) The lines used to work out time zones

10) The North Pole, at 90 degrees

11) The line that divides the Northern and Southern Hemispheres

Exercise 2 of 3 · 10 questions Rotation or revolution? Name it and say what it causes.

WRITE THE ANSWER

HERE'S ONE DONE FOR YOU

Day and night -> rotation. The Earth turns, so the side facing the Sun has day. Seasons are revolution plus the tilt - and the tilt is the part children leave out, without which revolution alone would not produce seasons at all. That omission is the most common lost mark in the chapter.

1) The Earth spins on its axis once in 24 hours.**2)** The Earth moves around the Sun once in 365 and a quarter days.**3)** Day and night**4)** The seasons**5)** A leap year every four years**6)** Sunrise happening earlier in the east of India than in the west**7)** Longer days in summer than in winter**8)** The midnight sun in the far north**9)** The time difference between India and the United Kingdom**10)** Why the Sun appears to move across the sky during a day

Exercise 3 of 3 · 9 questions Answer in one sentence.

WRITE THE ANSWER

HERE'S ONE DONE FOR YOU

Why does a map need a scale? -> because it tells you what a distance on the map means on the ground. Notice the answer says what the scale is for, not what it is. 'Because it shows the scale' repeats the question - and this pattern of restating rather than explaining is the single most common error in the whole subject.

1) Why does a map need a scale?

2) Why does a map need a direction arrow?

3) Why are symbols used on a map instead of pictures?

4) Give one thing a globe shows better than a map.

5) Why is a physical map coloured differently from a political map?

6) Why is north usually placed at the top of a map?

7) Why can a map of a city show more detail than a map of India on the same sheet?

8) What is a sketch map, and when is one useful?

9) Why do two maps of the same country sometimes look different in shape?

**All done? How did that feel?**

Colour in a star. Three stars means you could teach it to someone else.



Tricky · Getting there · Easy now



Answer key

For grown-ups

The Earth, globes and maps · keep this page back until your child has finished.

1. Latitude or longitude? Write which, and what it measures.

- 1) Latitude - it measures distance north or south of the Equator.
- 2) Longitude - it measures distance east or west of the Prime Meridian.
- 3) Latitude - it is the 0 degree line of latitude.
- 4) Longitude - it is the 0 degree line of longitude.
- 5) Latitude - it is 23.5 degrees north of the Equator.
- 6) Latitude - it is 23.5 degrees south of the Equator.
- 7) Latitude - it is 66.5 degrees north of the Equator.
- 8) Longitude - it is the meridian on the far side of the Earth from the Prime Meridian.
- 9) Longitude - time zones are worked out from lines of longitude.
- 10) Latitude - it is the highest latitude north.
- 11) Latitude - that line is the Equator.

2. Rotation or revolution? Name it and say what it causes.

- 1) Rotation.
- 2) Revolution.
- 3) Rotation - the side facing the Sun has day, the other has night.
- 4) Revolution, together with the tilt of the Earth's axis.
- 5) Revolution - the extra quarter day each year adds up to one day every four years.
- 6) Rotation - the eastern part turns into the sunlight first.
- 7) Revolution together with the tilt - that hemisphere leans towards the Sun in summer.
- 8) Revolution together with the tilt - the far north stays tilted towards the Sun through its summer.
- 9) Rotation - different longitudes face the Sun at different moments.
- 10) Rotation - the Earth turns, so the Sun only appears to move.

3. Answer in one sentence.

- 1) Because it tells you what a distance on the map means as a real distance on the ground.
- 2) Because without it you cannot tell which way is north, so you cannot use the map to find anything.
- 3) Because symbols take up little space and mean the same thing on every map, so any reader can understand them.
- 4) A globe shows the true shape and size of the continents, because a flat map always distorts them.
- 5) Because a physical map uses colour to show height and landforms, while a political map uses it to separate countries or states.
- 6) Because mapmakers agreed on it, so that anyone picking up a map can read it the same way without being told.
- 7) Because the city map covers a much smaller area at a larger scale, so there is room to show streets and buildings.
- 8) A rough map drawn without a scale, useful for showing someone the way when exact distances do not matter.
- 9) Because a flat map has to stretch a curved surface somewhere, and different maps choose to stretch different parts.

WHILE YOUR CHILD WORKS

- 'Lat sounds like flat' fixes the latitude-longitude confusion better than any diagram, and it lasts.
- Seasons need revolution AND the tilt. A child who writes only revolution has given half the answer.
- An answer that repeats the question earns nothing. 'Because it shows the scale' is not an explanation of why a scale is needed.

**Spotted a gap while marking?**

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