

**World Cultures**  
**Vocabulary Terms: Unit 1 – The World**

**Chapter 1 – Using Geography Skills**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the study of the Earth and its people.

2. Themes of Geography

1.

- a. **Relative:** describes where that feature is in relation to the feature around it.
- b. **Absolute:** the exact spot on Earth where a geographic feature is found.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Types of Geography

3. \_\_\_\_\_: study natural resources and help people make decisions about managing different types of resources such as water, forests, land, and wind.

4. \_\_\_\_\_: study people’s religions, languages, and ways of life.

Tools of Geography

5. \_\_\_\_\_: helps geographers understand how places appeared in the past.

a. 10 year block of time: \_\_\_\_\_

b. 100 year block of time: \_\_\_\_\_

c. 1,000 year block of time: \_\_\_\_\_

Periods of History

a. Prehistory: human history before writing (before 3,000 BC)

b. Ancient History: 3,000 BC - 476 AD

c. Middle Ages: 476 AD-1350 AD

d. Modern History: 1350 AD – present

6. Cartography (Mapmaking)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

i. A round model of the Earth

	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>
<b>Other Name</b>	Parallels	Meridians
<b>What direction to they run?</b>	East to West (horizontal)	North to South (vertical)
<b>What do they measure?</b>	North & South	East & West
<b>Central Line (0°)</b>	Equator	Prime Meridian/ International Date Line (180°)

\*SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE

b. \_\_\_\_\_

i. A flat drawing of all or part of the Earth’s surface

ii. Physical Map: shows landforms or water features

iii. Political Map: shows the names and political boundaries of countries

iv. Historical Map: shows events that occurred in a region over time.

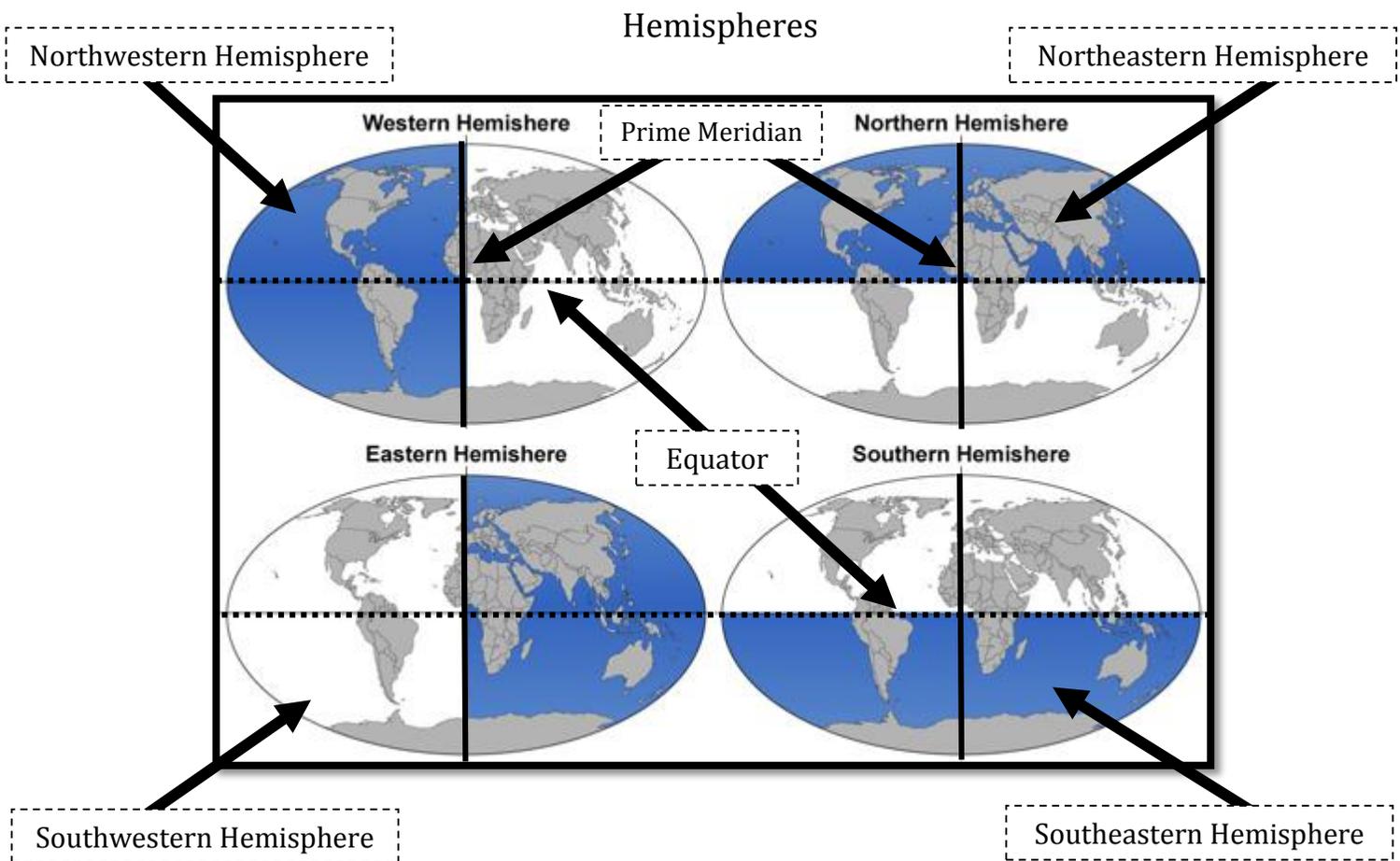
v. Contour Map: shows lines of elevation

vi. Vegetation Map: show the different types of plants that are found in a region

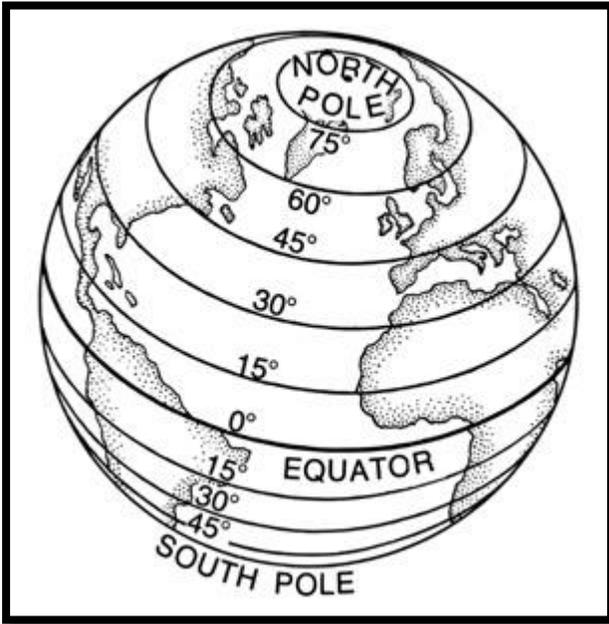
	<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<b>Globes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represent true land shape, distances, and directions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cannot show detailed information</li> <li>- Difficult to carry</li> </ul>
<b>Maps</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Show small areas in great detail</li> <li>- Display different types of information, such as population densities or natural resources</li> <li>- Transport easily</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Distort, or change, the accuracy of shapes and distances</li> </ul>

7. **Global positioning system** (\_\_\_\_\_ ) group of satellites that use radio signals to determine the exact location of places on Earth

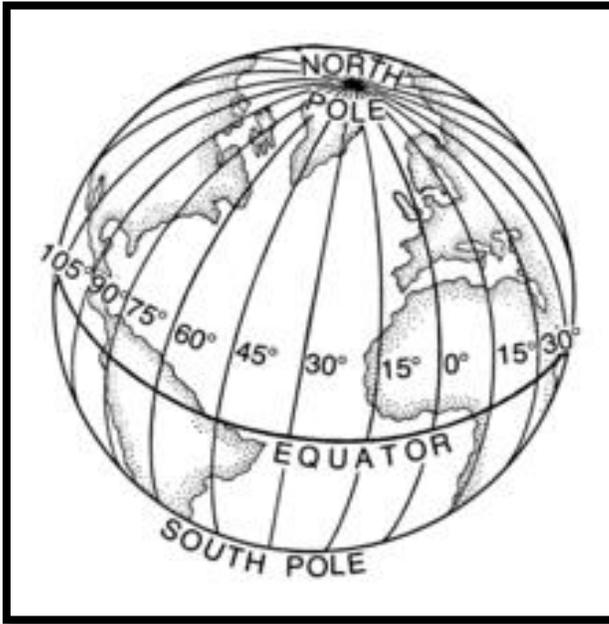
8. **Geographic information systems** (\_\_\_\_\_ ) combination of computer hardware and software used to gather, store, and analyze geographic information and then display it on a screen



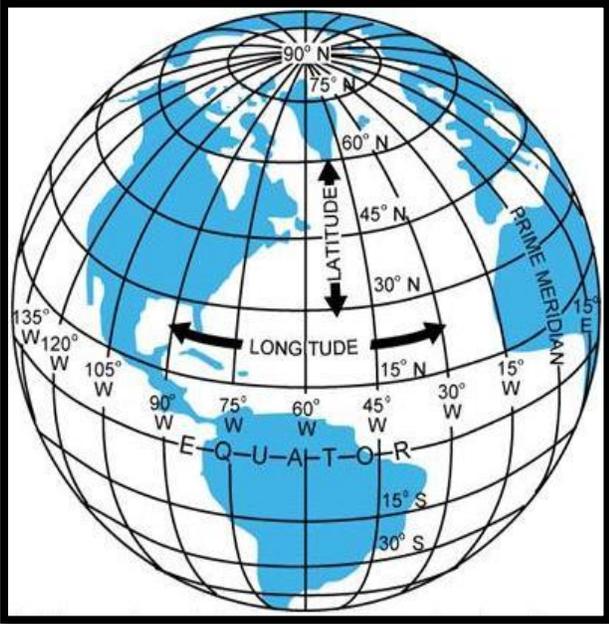
# Latitude and Longitude



**9.** \_\_\_\_\_: imaginary circles that run east to west around the globe; also known as parallels. They measure north to south.



**10.** \_\_\_\_\_: imaginary lines that run from the North Pole to the South Pole; also known as meridians. They measure east to west.



**11.** A place's exact location can be identified when one uses both latitude and longitude; this is done by using coordinates. It is known as \_\_\_\_\_.

## International Date Line

- **International Date Line**—Along with prime meridian, provides the anchor for the framework of time zones.
  - It is the line marking where new days begin and old days exit from surface of Earth.

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**12.** The \_\_\_\_\_ (180°) is opposite of the Prime Meridian (0°). The Prime Meridian goes through Africa while the International Date Line goes through the Pacific Ocean.

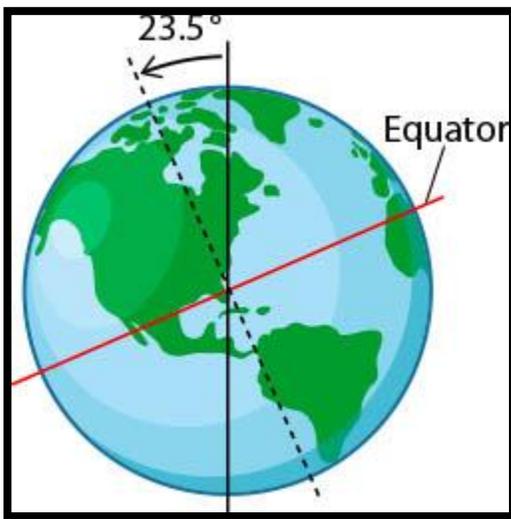
Our Solar System

13. Earth is one of eight total planets that orbit, or circle, the sun in an elliptical shape

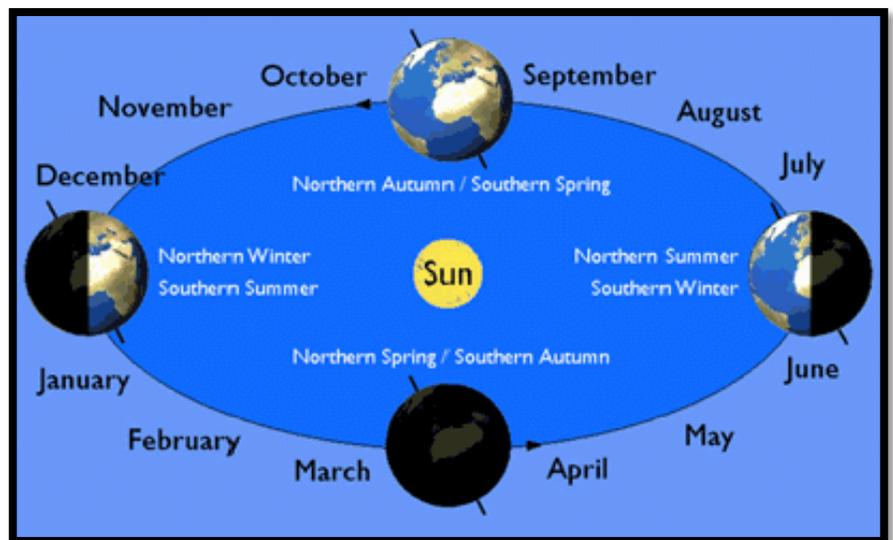
- a. \_\_\_\_\_ planets: smaller, solid planets
  - i. Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ planets: gas giants
  - i. Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune

14. Earth

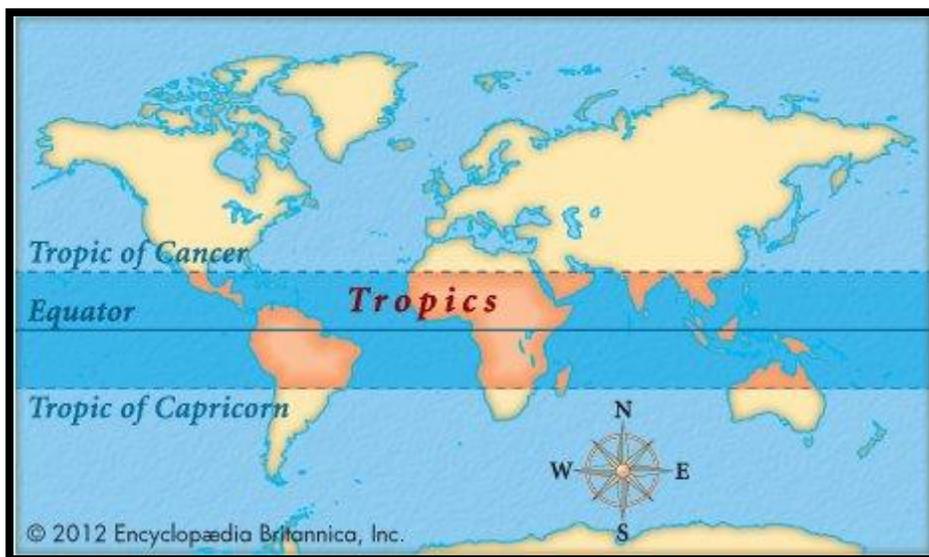
- a. \_\_\_\_\_: complete circuit around the sun
  - i. 365 ¼ days
    - 1. Every four years, there is an extra day in the calendar
      - a. February 29 – Leap day (Leap year)
- b. \_\_\_\_\_: earth spins on its axis (an imaginary line that passes through the center of Earth from the North to South Pole)
  - i. Rotates in an easterly direction
  - ii. Takes 24 hours for a complete rotation, causes day/night
  - iii. The atmosphere moves with Earth so we do not feel it move



Earth is tilted  $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  on its axis, which causes Earth's seasons.



- 15. **Summer** \_\_\_\_\_: the day with most hours of sunlight in the northern hemisphere (beginning of the summer).
- 16. **Winter** \_\_\_\_\_: the day with the fewest hours of sunlight in the northern hemisphere (beginning of the winter).
- 17. **Fall/Spring** \_\_\_\_\_: amount of day/night are identical; the noon sun shines directly over the Equator.
- 18. \_\_\_\_\_: low-latitude areas near the Equator between the Tropic of Cancer and Capricorn that always have warm temperatures.



## Chapter 2 – Earth’s Physical Geography

### Layers of the Earth

19. \_\_\_\_\_: solid, hot iron mixed with other metals – about 3,200 miles below the surface

Inner core: under tremendous pressure

Outer core: hot, melted liquid – 8,500°F

20. \_\_\_\_\_: layer of hot, dense rock – about 1,770 miles thick

Inner mantle: solid, closest to the core

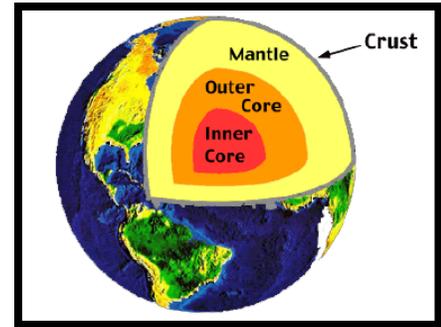
Outer mantle: made of magma (also called lava once it reaches the surface)

21. \_\_\_\_\_: thin, rocky shell that forms the surface

a. includes ocean floors and all of the continents

b. the crust is only a few miles thick on the ocean floor

c. only 31-62 miles deep



22. \_\_\_\_\_ explains how the continents were formed and why they move; as the plates move, the continents on top of them move which is called continental drift.

a. 1in-7inches per year (too slow to notice)

b. 200 million years ago – continents were connected and called Pangaea (super continent)

23. \_\_\_\_\_ are sudden and violent movements of the Earth’s crust

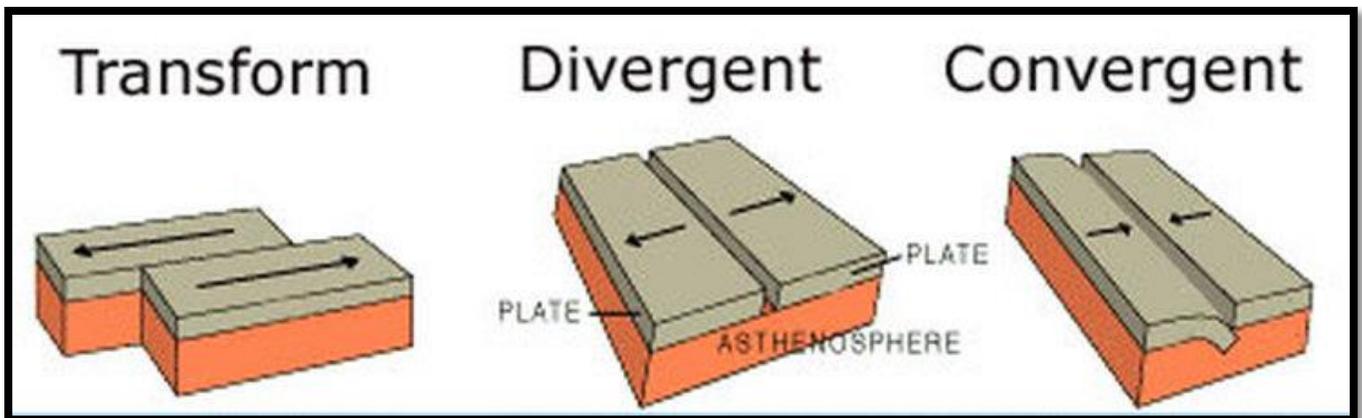
a. \_\_\_\_\_: cracks in the earth’s crust

a. Types of fault lines:

i. \_\_\_\_\_: creates mountains (plates come together)

ii. \_\_\_\_\_: creates trenches (plates divide/move apart)

iii. \_\_\_\_\_: plates move past one another



24. \_\_\_\_\_: water, ice, chemicals, or plants break rocks apart into smaller pieces.

25. \_\_\_\_\_: process by which weathered bits of rock are moved elsewhere by water, wind, or ice.

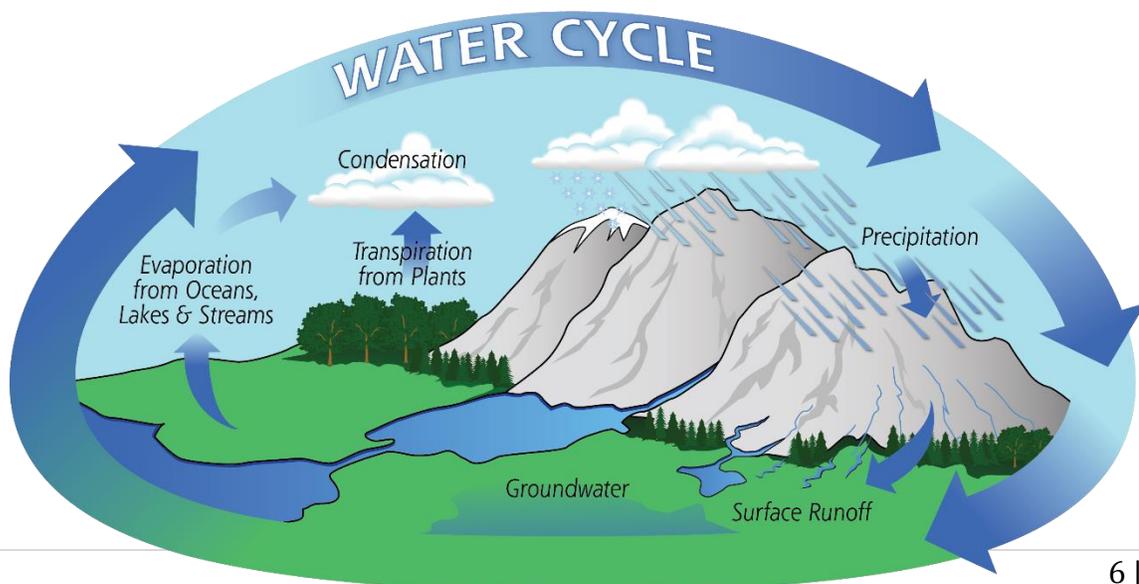
### Landforms

26. Mountains are the world’s highest landforms; can also be found in oceans

a. \_\_\_\_\_: world’s highest mountain (29,029 feet – nearly 5 ½ miles high)

27. \_\_\_\_\_ are lower and more rounded than mountains.

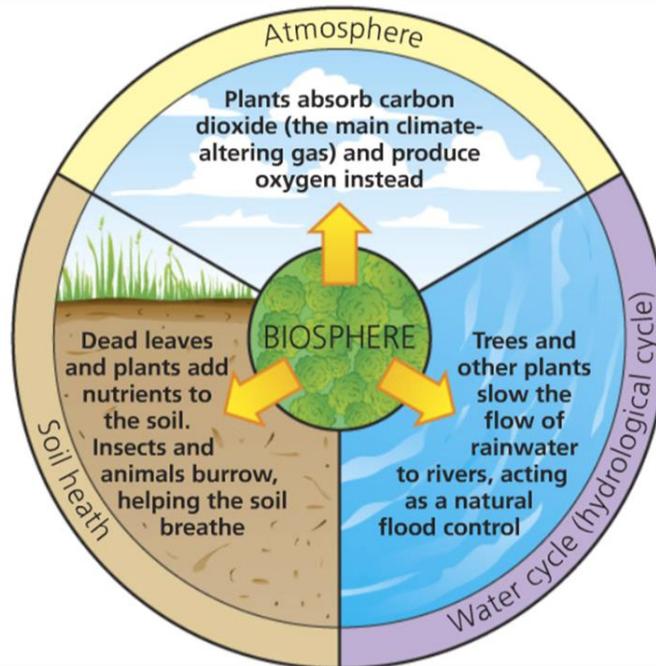
28. \_\_\_\_\_: long stretches of land; lower than the land on either side; found between mountains and hills
29. Flatlands
- \_\_\_\_\_: flat lowlands, typically found along coasts and lowland river valleys
  - \_\_\_\_\_: flatlands at higher elevations
30. \_\_\_\_\_: narrow strip of land that connects two larger landmasses and has water on two sides
31. \_\_\_\_\_: piece of land that is connected to a larger landmass on one side but has water on the other three sides
32. \_\_\_\_\_: a body of land that is smaller than a continent and completely surrounded by water
33. \_\_\_\_\_: can be found off the coast of each continent; after, the land drops down sharply to the ocean floor
- \_\_\_\_\_: deep cuts in the ocean floor
  - Mariana's Trench: deepest point on Earth's surface (36,198 ft) below sea level
34. Salt Water
- all of the world's oceans are connected
  - \_\_\_\_\_ of the planet's water is salt water
  - seas, gulfs, and bays are connected by channels or straits
35. Freshwater
- \_\_\_\_\_ of the planet's water is fresh water
  - most of the freshwater is frozen, covering the polar regions or mountains
  - some can also be found in \_\_\_\_\_
  - lake water typically has to be purified before being used/drunk
36. Water Cycle
- the total amount of water on Earth never changes, but water is always moving
  - \_\_\_\_\_: water changes from a liquid to a gas (water vapor)
  - \_\_\_\_\_: water changes from gas to a liquid
  - \_\_\_\_\_: water droplets fall to the ground (rain, snow, etc.)
  - \_\_\_\_\_: water collects on the ground in rivers, lakes, oceans



## Effects on Climate

37. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the changes in temperature, wind direction and speed, and air moisture that take place over a short period of time.
- When geographers look at the usual, predictable pattern of weather in an area over many years, it is known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
    - Climate is linked directly to the \_\_\_\_\_
    - Tropics receive more of the sun's energy, and poles receive less
    - \_\_\_\_\_ : major wind systems that blow warm air up from the Equator and cold winds down from the Poles
    - \_\_\_\_\_ : warm winds that move within the tropics
      - Storms
        - \_\_\_\_\_ : summer-time wind storms
        - \_\_\_\_\_ : winter-time snow storms
        - \_\_\_\_\_ : occur in the western Atlantic and eastern Pacific
        - \_\_\_\_\_ : occur in the western Pacific
38. \_\_\_\_\_ : steady flow of streams in the world's oceans
- \_\_\_\_\_ : heavy rains fall in western South America; little rain in Australia, southern Asia, and Africa; North American can also see heavy storms
  - \_\_\_\_\_ : unusually cool waters and low rainfall in the eastern Pacific; western Pacific, rains are heavy and typhoons occur
39. The air is much thinner at the top of a high mountain, and cannot hold the heat, which is why it is cold on the top of many mountains, even in the tropics.
- \_\_\_\_\_ : mountains also block rain from reaching interior regions; one side of a mountain range will receive more rainfall than the other.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ can develop on the leeward side of mountain ranges because of the cool dry air that passes over the mountains
40. \_\_\_\_\_ : areas of the world that have a similar climate (Ex: southern California and the Mediterranean); this means that they can grow the same vegetation.
- these include \_\_\_\_\_ (rain forests, deserts, grasslands, tundra, plains, etc.)
  - Five major climate zones: tropical, dry, mid-latitude, high latitude, highland
41. \_\_\_\_\_ : different climate due to paved streets and buildings that absorb more heat; cities also change wind patterns and possibility receive more precipitation.
42. \_\_\_\_\_ : chemicals combining with ozone (oxygen) creates smog, a thick haze of smoke
- pollution can cause acid rain which kills fish and can destroy buildings and plants
  - \_\_\_\_\_ - pollution is strengthening this and causing the overall temperature of the world to rise, and causing the polar ice caps to melt; this is known as global warming
43. \_\_\_\_\_ : the earth's crust including the land above and below the oceans; human activity can have a negative impact on it
- protecting the topsoil is an important part of the lithosphere
    - \_\_\_\_\_ : changing what is planted from year to year
    - \_\_\_\_\_ : cutting down trees without replanting, harms the topsoil

44. \_\_\_\_\_: the Earth's surface water and groundwater
- \_\_\_\_\_ : careful use of a resource, especially water
  - \_\_\_\_\_ : a process in which water is collected and distributed to crops
  - pollution threatens the world's water supply; chemicals from industrial processes get into the water supply
45. \_\_\_\_\_ : collection of plants and animals of all types that live on Earth
- Ecosystems: division of the biosphere; plants and animals are dependent on one another for survival in an ecosystem



### Chapter 3 – Earth's Human and Cultural Geography

46. World population: over \_\_\_\_\_ compared to 1 billion in 1800
- \_\_\_\_\_ has gone down due to better health care and living conditions
  - \_\_\_\_\_ has gone up
47. Challenges of population growth
- more \_\_\_\_\_ is needed which means better technology for food production
  - possible \_\_\_\_\_ and water shortages
  - \_\_\_\_\_ and spatial issues
  - more \_\_\_\_\_ needed, such as schools, hospitals, etc.
48. Population distribution and density
- about \_\_\_\_\_ of Earth's surface is covered with land; only half is usable
  - people prefer to live in places with good soil, mild climates, and natural resources
    - 2/3 of the world's population live in five regions that meet this criterion
    - \_\_\_\_\_ : the average number of people living in a square mile
49. Population Movement
- Internal migration
    - \_\_\_\_\_ : movement from rural to urban regions

b. External migration

- i. \_\_\_\_\_: leaving the country where one was born to live in another
- ii. \_\_\_\_\_: person who are forced to flee to another country to escape wars, persecution or natural disasters

50. \_\_\_\_\_: the way of life of a group of people who share similar beliefs and customs  
 a. \_\_\_\_\_: a group that shares a language, history, religion, and some physical traits

<b>Ethnic Groups</b>	
<b>Examples</b>	<b>Non-examples</b>

51. \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the strongest unifying forces for a culture; it may have different dialects  
 a. dialect: a local form of a language that may have a distinct vocabulary and pronunciation  
 b. more than \_\_\_\_\_ different languages are spoken around the world today

52. \_\_\_\_\_ help people answer basic questions about the meaning of life  
 a. hundreds of religions are practiced around the world, but there are \_\_\_\_\_ major ones

\_\_\_\_\_ :  
 belief in one god



**Christianity**  
 • Sacred Text: Bible  
 • Major Leader: Jesus Christ



**Islam**  
 • Sacred Text: Quran  
 • Major Leader: Muhammad



**Judaism**  
 • Sacred Text: Torah  
 • Major Leader: Abraham

\_\_\_\_\_ :  
 belief in many gods



**Hinduism**  
 Sacred Text: Vedas  
 Major Leader: Unknown



**Buddism**  
 Sacred Text: none  
 Major Leader: Siddhartha Gautama (the Buddha)

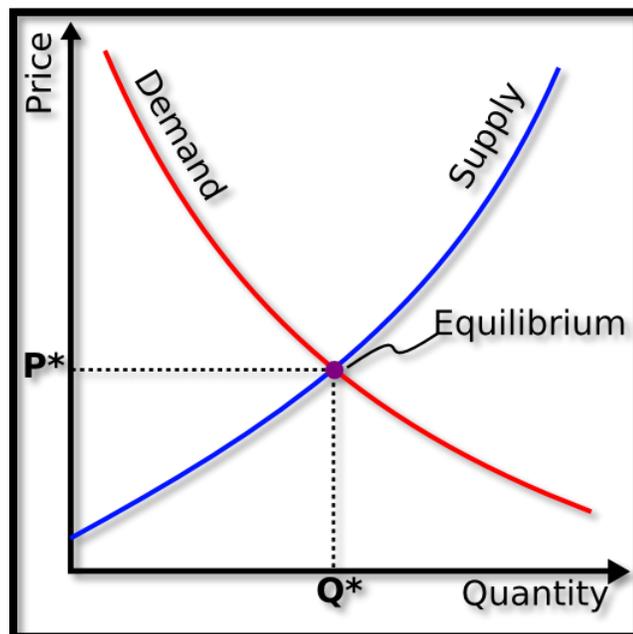
53. \_\_\_\_\_ shapes how a culture views itself and the world; holidays mark important events and enable people to celebrate their heritage
54. \_\_\_\_\_: food, clothing, and shelter reflect culture (ex: clothing styles, eating utensils, food).
55. \_\_\_\_\_: music, painting, sculpture, dance, and literature show how people express themselves and their culture
56. \_\_\_\_\_: the rules people live by to avoid conflict
- a. can be limited or unlimited
    1. \_\_\_\_\_: people hold the power
    2. \_\_\_\_\_: one supreme ruler holds power
    3. \_\_\_\_\_: a king and/or queen holds power
57. Origins of civilization
- a. nomadic people learn to grow crops and domesticate animals, settling down into the first civilizations

### **Characteristics of Civilization**


58. \_\_\_\_\_: the process of spreading ideas, languages, or customs from one culture to another
- a. takes place through trade, migration, conquest, and communication
59. \_\_\_\_\_: an area that includes different countries that share similar cultural traits
60. \_\_\_\_\_: development of a worldwide culture with an interdependent economy
61. \_\_\_\_\_: materials from the Earth that people use to meet their needs
- a. Renewable resources: natural resources that cannot be used up or that can be replaced
  - b. nonrenewable resources: limited; once they are gone, they are gone

62. \_\_\_\_\_: method used to answer three key questions:  
 - What goods and services to produce? How to produce them? Who will receive them?  
 a. Four kinds of economic systems:

1. \_\_\_\_\_:  
 individuals decide what to produce; based on customs or habits. People often do the same work as their parents and grandparents; technology is often limited.
2. \_\_\_\_\_: the government makes the key economic decisions; individuals have little economic freedoms
3. \_\_\_\_\_:  
 individuals make their own economic decisions; people have the right to own property or businesses
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (most nations have this): some sort of combination of the three



63. \_\_\_\_\_/Industrialized Country: has a mix of agriculture, manufacturing, and service industries. Ex: United States, Japan, France
64. \_\_\_\_\_: those with little industry. Ex: Guatemala, Sierra Leone, Cambodia
65. \_\_\_\_\_: those that have recently acquired more industry. Ex: Thailand, Korea, Singapore
66. \_\_\_\_\_: allows countries to import and export; also allows cultural diffusion and globalization to occur
- a. \_\_\_\_\_: taxes used to increase price of imported goods
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_: a limit on how many items of a particular produce can be imported from a certain nation
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_: eliminating trade barriers (tariffs, quotas)
    - i. 1992: Canada, USA, and Mexico signed the North American Free Trade Agreement (\_\_\_\_\_) which removed most trade barriers between the three nations
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_: countries rely on each other for ideas, goods, services, and markets