



## **World Geography: Notes**

### **In this lesson...**

- U.S. States
- Canada
- World Regions
- Latitude & Longitude
- Reading/Making Maps
- 5 Themes of Geography
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- NAFTA/USMCA
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**U.S. States:**

<b>State</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Capital</b>
Alabama	AL	Montgomery
Alaska	AK	Juneau
Arizona	AZ	Phoenix
Arkansas	AR	Little Rock
California	CA	Sacramento
Colorado	CO	Denver
Connecticut	CT	Hartford
Delaware	DE	Dover
Florida	FL	Tallahassee
Georgia	GA	Atlanta
Hawaii	HI	Honolulu
Idaho	ID	Boise
Illinois	IL	Springfield
Indiana	IN	Indianapolis
Iowa	IA	Des Moines
Kansas	KS	Topeka
Kentucky	KY	Frankfort
Louisiana	LA	Baton Rouge
Maine	ME	Augusta
Maryland	MD	Annapolis
Massachusetts	MA	Boston
Michigan	MI	Lansing
Minnesota	MN	Saint Paul
Mississippi	MS	Jackson
Missouri	MO	Jefferson City
Montana	MT	Helena
Nebraska	NE	Lincoln
Nevada	NV	Carson City
New Hampshire	NH	Concord
New Jersey	NJ	Trenton
New Mexico	NM	Santa Fe
New York	NY	Albany
North Carolina	NC	Raleigh
North Dakota	ND	Bismarck
Ohio	OH	Columbus
Oklahoma	OK	Oklahoma City



Oregon	OR	Salem
Pennsylvania	PA	Harrisburg
Rhode Island	RI	Providence
South Carolina	SC	Columbia
South Dakota	SD	Pierre
Tennessee	TN	Nashville
Texas	TX	Austin
Utah	UT	Salt Lake City
Vermont	VT	Montpelier
Virginia	VA	Richmond
Washington	WA	Olympia
West Virginia	WV	Charleston
Wisconsin	WI	Madison
Wyoming	WY	Cheyenne

To work on memorizing the locations of all the states go to this website:

[The US: 50 States - Map Quiz Game](#)



*Map of the U.S. (Derived from Wikimedia commons)*

*(Derived from)*

## **World Continents & Countries:**

### **North America:**

- # of Countries: 23
- Characteristics:
  - Has 5 time zones with every type of climate in each
  - Population density is the highest: 22.9 people per square kilometer
  - Highest average food intake
  - The USA (part of North America) has the largest economy
  - World's largest producer of maize, wheat, soybean, and sugar.



*North America on a globe (Derived from Wikipedia)*

### South America:

- # of Countries: 12
- Characteristics:
  - Major languages: Portuguese and Spanish
  - Has the world's largest river by measure of water volume, the Amazon
  - Has the world's highest waterfalls: the Angel Falls
  - Has the world's largest snake and second longest: the green anaconda
  - Highest volcanoes of the world: Mt. Cotopaxi and Mt. Chimborazo



*South America (Derived from flickr)*

## Africa:

- # of Countries: 54
- Characteristics:
  - It contains the world's hottest place (Ethiopia)
  - Homosapiens are said to have originated here
  - It has the world's longest river: the Nile
  - It has the world's largest desert: the Sahara
  - It is more than 50% of the world's gold and 95% of the world's diamonds



*Africa (Derived from Mapswire)*

### Asia:

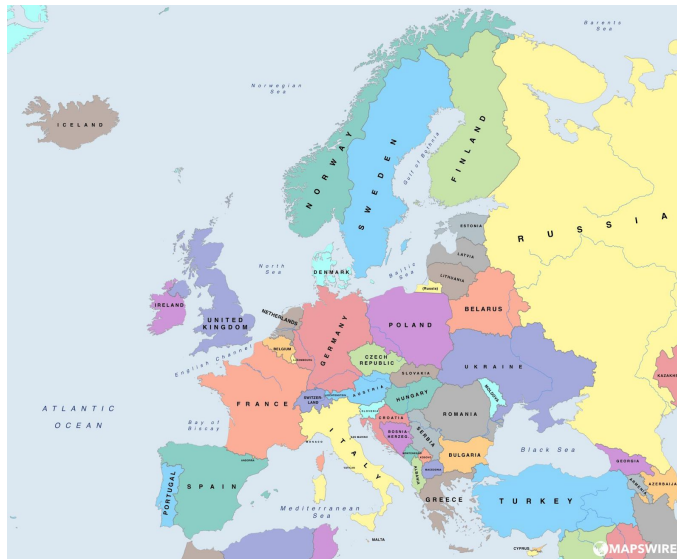
- # of Countries: 48
- Characteristics:
  - The world's largest continent
  - It has 60% of the world's population, because it has two of the most populated countries: China and India
  - It has the 10 highest peaks in the world, including Mount Everest, the highest point in the world
  - The religions are Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, and Christianity
  - Covers one third of the earth's surface



*Asia (Derived from Mapswire)*

## Europe:

- # of Countries: 50
- Characteristics:
  - The world's smallest country: Vatican City, is in Europe
  - It is surrounded by water on three sides
  - It is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea in the south, the Atlantic Ocean in the west, and the Arctic Ocean in the north.
  - It has the longest railroad: the Trans-Siberian Railroad.
  - The main crops are maize, barley, rice, and oil seeds.



*Europe (Derived from Mapswire)*



### Australia/Oceania:

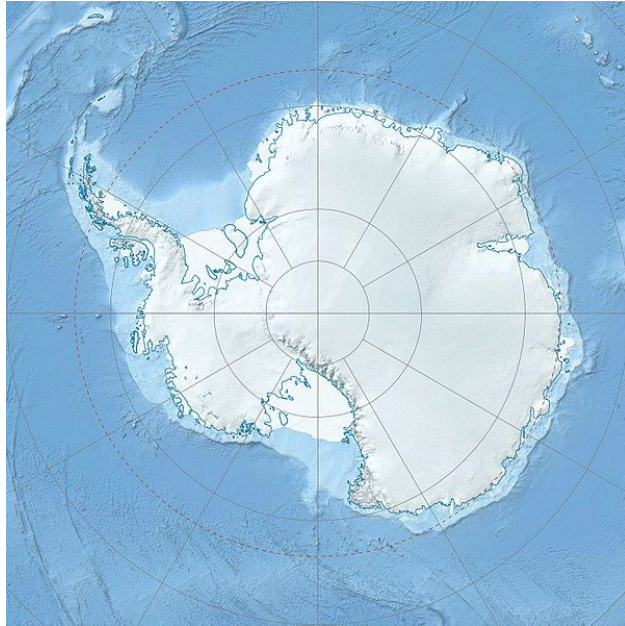
- # of Countries: 3
- Characteristics:
  - It is called the island continent.
  - It is made up of two-thirds of desert land
  - It has the highest wool production and import because of the high sheep population
  - It has the world's largest coral reef, the Great Barrier Reef, which is 2,000 kilometers long
  - It has over 500 varieties of eucalyptus trees



*Australia (Derived from Mapswire)*

Antarctica:

- # of Countries: 0
- Characteristics:
  - Coldest, highest, driest, windiest, and emptiest place on earth
  - It contains 75% of the world's ice
  - Contains 70% of the world's fresh water
  - There is no time zone
  - Nothing can rot in the icy water



*Antarctica (Derived from Wikipedia)*

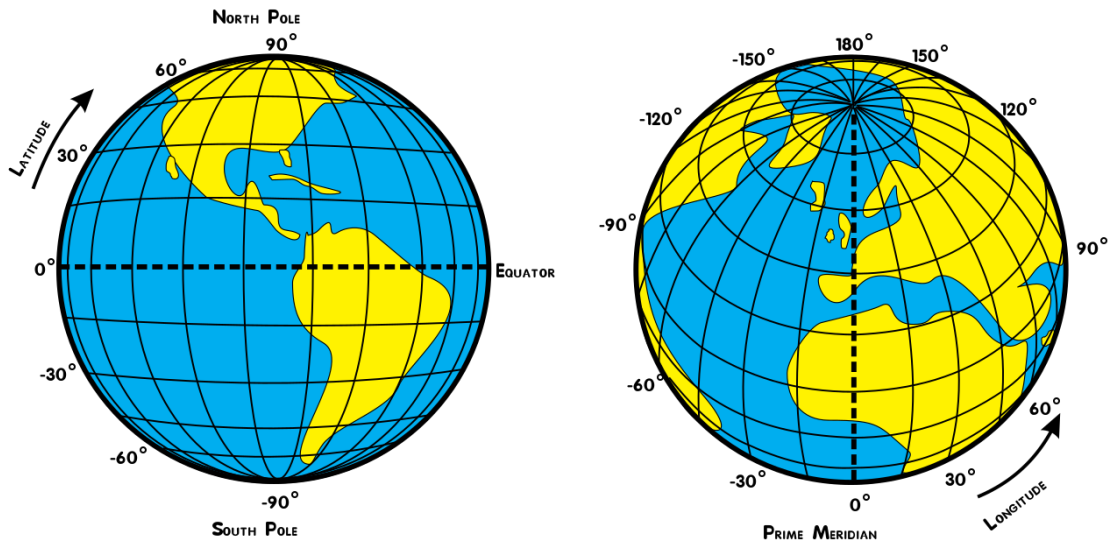
## Latitude & Longitude:

### Latitude:

- Lines that go **around the globe**
- They go by the directions **North and South**

### Longitude:

- Lines that point from **top to bottom from the globe**
- They go by the directions **East and West**



*Latitude      (Derived from Wikimedia Commons)      Longitude*



## **Reading/Making Maps:**

### **TODALS: (From the Minnesota Alliance for Geographic Education - Cain & Johnson)**

#### **T- Title**

- What is the map showing?
- Where is this place?
- Why is this a good title for the map?

#### **O- Orientation**

- Where is the compass?
- Where is North? South? East? West?
- Why is this important?

#### **D- Date**

- When was this map made?
- Why is this important?
- Does it make a difference?

#### **A- Author**

- Who made this map?
- What is the author trying to show us?
- What does the author want us to think and know?

#### **L- Legend**

- What symbols do we see?
- What do these symbols mean?
- Why is this important?

#### **S- Scale**

- How big is this area?
- What is the scale?
- Why do we use this idea?

- It is **best to use this method for reading, understanding, or making your own map.**
- This method will ensure **100% understanding of the map** and what it wants to show you.
- It will also **help you make the best map possible, as if your map is missing any of these aspects...IT IS INCOMPLETE!!**



## **5 Themes of Geography:**

### **MRHELP**

#### **M- Movement**

- **The movement of people, goods, and ideas from place to place**
  - Human
    - Trucks, Trains, Planes
  - Information
    - Phones, Computer (Email), Mail
  - Idea
    - Fads: TV, Radio, Magazines

#### **R- Region**

- **Division of the world into manageable units for study based on a unifying characteristic**
  - Government (Countries, States, Cities)
    - The South, The Midwest, The Middle East, The Cornbelt

#### **H- Human ↓**

#### **E- Environment Interaction (Human-Environment Interaction)**

- **How the environment and humans affect each other**
  - Humans depend on the environment
    - People depend on the Tennessee River for water and transportation
  - People modify the environment
    - Heating & Cooling buildings
  - Humans adapt to the environment
    - Wearing lighter clothing in summer and winter clothing in winter

#### **L- Location**

- **Where something is**
  - Absolute Location
    - When you know a definite reference of a place you would like to locate
      - Washington D.C. is 39 degrees North, 77 degrees West
      - The White House is located at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
  - Relative Location
    - When you say the location of a place by describing surrounding environment and its connection to other places
      - Washington D.C. is located in the east coast of the U.S.



## **P- Place**

- **To describe a location through its physical and human characteristics**
  - Human Characteristics
    - Main languages, Customs, Beliefs, Architectural Styles, Types of Jobs, Religious Practices, Political Systems, Common Foods, Local Folklore, Means of Transportation, and Methods of Communication
  - Physical Characteristics
    - Landforms (Mountains, Rivers, etc.), Climate, Vegetation, Wildlife, Soil, etc.
- **Remember MRHELP for the 5 Important Themes of Geography**
- **It is important to know these for the World Geography Course**

## **NAFTA/USMCA:**

NAFTA- North American Free Trade Agreement (Jan. 1, 1994 - July 1, 2020)

USMCA - United States Mexico Canada Agreement (July 1, 2020 - ?)

- **Free trade** among the United States, Canada, and Mexico

**Free Trade:** An **international trade** left to its natural course **without tariffs (taxes), quotas (value), or other restrictions.**



### **Important Vocabulary:**

**Material Culture** - Aspects of culture that you can physically see and hold

**Non-Material Culture** - The ideas present in culture that you cannot physically see or hold

**Cultural Traits** - Activities and behaviors people take part in

**Culture** - The way of life of a group of people who share similar customs and beliefs

**Ethnocentrism** - When people of a culture group believe their culture is superior or better than other cultures

**Globalization** - The development of a worldwide culture with an independent economy

**Traditionalism** - Following long-time practices and opposing most modern technology and ideas

**Innovation** - Innovation is when a cultural group changes by itself with no outside influence

**Diffusion** - Diffusion is when a culture spreads their ideas, languages, and/or customs with another

**Assimilation** - When an individual or group adopts all of the traits of another culture

**Acculturation** - When an individual or group adopts some of the traits of another culture

**Monotheism** - Belief in only one god

**Polytheism** - Belief in many gods

**Maternal & Paternal Societies** - Maternal societies are ruled by women, paternal by men

**Monogamy** - Monogamy is to have one spouse at a time

**Polygamy** - to have more than one spouse at a time

**Immigrate** - To come and live permanently in a foreign country

**Emigrate** - To leave your one's own country to go live permanently in a foreign one

**Refugee** - A person forced to leave their home country due to hardship (e.g. to escape war)