

Geography Vocabulary

- 1. Continent:** A continuous mass of land/ Earth's large landmasses
- 2. Ocean:** Any of the large bodies of saltwater into which the great ocean is divided
- 3. Ural Mountains:** A mountain range that forms a natural boundary between Europe and Asia
- 4. Latitude:** Lines that run east and west but are measured north or south of the equator
- 5. Longitude:** Lines that run north and south but are measured east and west of the prime meridian
- 6. Hemispheres:** A half of the Earth, usually as divided into northern and southern halves by the equator, or into western and eastern halves by the Prime Meridian
- 7. Equator:** Major line of latitude measured at 0° latitude
- 8. Prime Meridian:** Major line of longitude measured at 0° longitude; runs through Greenwich, England
- 9. International Dateline:** Major line of longitude measured at 180° longitude, where the date changes. It is located directly opposite of the Prime Meridian on a globe (located on the edge of most flat maps)
- 10. Tropic of Cancer:** Major line of latitude measured at 23°N latitude
- 11. Tropic of Capricorn:** Major line of latitude measured at 23°S latitude
- 12. Arctic Circle:** The line of latitude located at 66.5° north of the equator
- 13. Antarctic Circle:** The line of latitude located at 66.5° south of the equator
- 14. 5 themes of geography:** A framework for teaching geography; includes location, place, movement, region, and human/environment interaction
- 15. Location:** Refers to where something is; can be absolute or relative
- 16. Absolute Location:** The exact spot on Earth where something is found, often stated in latitude and longitude
- 17. Relative Location:** The position of a place in relation to another place
- 18. Place:** Describes the human and physical characteristics of a location

- 19. Physical Features:** The features on the land's surface, such as mountains and rivers
- 20. Human Features:** Include the human-designed cultural features of a place such as: land use. Architecture, forms of livelihood, religion, food, folk ways, etc.
- 21. Movement:** Refers to the way people, products, information, and ideas move from one place to another; can be local or global
- 22. Region:** An area with one or more features that make it different from surrounding areas
- 23. Human/environment interaction:** One of the 5 themes of geography; refers to the way in which people interact with their environment and adapt to it or change it
- 24. Political map:** A map that shows how people have divided places on the Earth into countries, states, cities, and other units for the purpose of governing them; used to show boundaries
- 25. Peninsula:** a piece of land that is almost entirely surrounded by water but is connected to the mainland on one side
- 26. Island:** an area of land that is entirely surrounded by water