

1. Continents

The world has seven continents. Continents are a group of countries. Europe is a **continent**. It is an area on the Earth that contains many different **countries**, including the UK.



6. Grid References

Grid references

A grid of squares helps the map-reader to locate a place. The horizontal lines crossing the map from one side to the other are called **northings**. They are numbered - the numbers increase to the north. The vertical lines crossing the map from top to bottom are called **eastings** as the numbers increase in an easterly direction. On an OS map **each grid square** is 1 km x 1 km or **1 sq km**.

When you give a grid reference, always give the easting first: "**Along the corridor and up the stairs**". **Four-figure grid references** can be used to pinpoint a location to within a square measuring 1 sq km. Sometimes it is necessary to be even more accurate. In this case you can imagine that each grid is divided into 100 tiny squares. The distance between one grid line and the next is divided into tenths. This is a **six-figure grid reference**

7. Map Symbols

Symbols help us to include lots of detail on maps that are drawn to **scale**. They include simple images, letters and abbreviations

2. Oceans

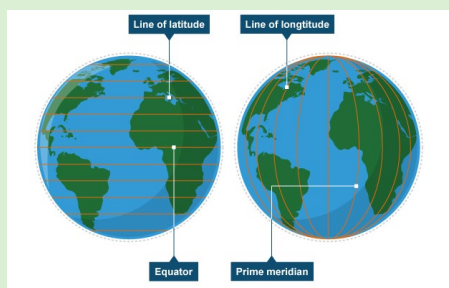
An **ocean** is a large area of salt water between continents. Oceans are very big and they join smaller seas together. Together, the oceans are like one "ocean", because all the "oceans" are joined. Oceans (or marine biomes) cover 72% of our planet. The largest ocean is the Pacific Ocean. It covers 1/3 of the Earth's surface.

3. Countries

A **country** is a political division. Some of the best-known countries are Germany, China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. There are 196 of them in the world,

4. Latitude and Longitude

Lines of **latitude** and **longitude** are used to locate places accurately on the Earth's surface.



Latitude

Lines of latitude circle the Earth in an east-west direction. They are parallel. They are different lengths, eg: the equator is 40,075 km long, the Antarctic circle is 17,662 km long, the South Pole is 0 km long

Longitude

Lines of longitude run from the top of the Earth to the bottom. They are not parallel as lines of latitude are - they meet at a point at the north and south poles and are called meridians. They divide the Earth into segments, like an orange



Semester 1

Y7

Zombie Apocalypse

5. Direction

Try to remember the main compass points by using a mnemonic, eg **Naughty Elephants Squirt Water**

8. Height

Maps show height in a number of different ways: **Spot heights and triangulation pillars** shows exact heights by a black dot with a number next to it. The number is the height above sea level in metres. The blue triangle represents a **triangulation pillar**; the networks of concrete pillars found in the UK that were used to make maps. **Contours** are lines drawn on maps that join places of the same height. They are usually an orange or brown colour. Some contour lines have their height above or below sea level written on them. It is possible to use them to see the shape of the land - if contour lines are close together the slope is steep, if they are far apart the slope is gentle.



9. Scale and Distance

Most maps have a scale. These help us to work out distances on maps. This is given by the scale statement (eg 1:25,000) and/or by showing a scale bar.

The scale shows how much bigger the real world is than the map. If the scale is 1:50,000 it means that the map is 50,000 times smaller than the real world. For example, every 1 cm on the map represents 50,000 cm in the real world