Latitude and Longitude Worksheet

Grade 5 – 6 geography · map skills

Name: Date: Score: / 28

How the grid works

Every place on Earth has an address made of two numbers. The first is **latitude**: how far north or south of the equator the place sits. The second is **longitude**: how far east or west of the prime meridian it sits. Both are measured in degrees.

Lines of latitude circle the globe from east to west, parallel to the equator, which is why they are also called parallels. They never touch. Lines of longitude run from the North Pole to the South Pole, so they all meet at both ends.

The equator is 0° latitude and divides the Northern from the Southern Hemisphere. The prime meridian is 0° longitude and divides the Eastern from the Western Hemisphere. Together the two lines cut the Earth into four quarters, and every coordinate names one of them.

Part A — Vocabulary match each term to its meaning (6 marks)

1. Latitude	_____	A. Distance east or west of the prime meridian, measured in degrees
2. Longitude	_____	B. One half of the Earth, divided north-south or east-west
3. Equator	_____	C. A pair of numbers that fixes one exact place on the globe
4. Prime meridian	_____	D. The line at 0 degrees latitude, halfway between the poles
5. Hemisphere	_____	E. Distance north or south of the equator, measured in degrees
6. Coordinates	_____	F. The line at 0 degrees longitude, running through Greenwich

Part B — Fill in the blanks (8 marks)

1. Lines of latitude run _____ and measure distance _____ of the equator.

2. Lines of longitude run _____ and measure distance _____ of the prime meridian.

3. The equator is at _____ degrees latitude.

4. The prime meridian is at _____ degrees longitude.

5. Latitude lines are also called _____ because they never meet.

6. When you write coordinates, _____ always comes first.

7. The North Pole is at _____ degrees north.

8. A place south of the equator is in the _____ Hemisphere.

Part C — Name the hemispheres write Northern or Southern, then Eastern or Western (6 marks)

Coordinates	North or south?	East or west?
48° N, 2° E		
34° S, 151° E		
40° N, 74° W		
23° S, 43° W		
1° N, 103° E		
56° N, 3° W		

Part D — Match the city write the letter of the city beside its coordinates (6 marks)

1. 51° N, 0°	_____	A. Tokyo
2. 35° N, 139° E	_____	B. Mexico City
3. 33° S, 18° E	_____	C. Lima
4. 19° N, 99° W	_____	D. London
5. 55° N, 37° E	_____	E. Cape Town
6. 12° S, 77° W	_____	F. Moscow

Part E — Think it through (2 marks)

1. A ship radios for help and gives only its latitude. Why can rescuers still not find it?

2. Two places share the same latitude but different longitude. Name one thing they are likely to have in common, and one thing that will differ.

Latitude and Longitude Worksheet — Answer Key

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Part A — Vocabulary

1. **Latitude** → E
2. **Longitude** → A
3. **Equator** → D
4. **Prime meridian** → F
5. **Hemisphere** → B
6. **Coordinates** → C

Part B — Fill in the blanks

1. **east to west; north or south**
2. **north to south; east or west**
3. **0**
4. **0**
5. **parallels**
6. **latitude**
7. **90**
8. **Southern**

Part C — Hemispheres

> **The rule:** N is north of the equator and S is south; E is east of the prime meridian and W is west.

1. 48° N, 2° E → **Northern**, **Eastern**
2. 34° S, 151° E → **Southern**, **Eastern**
3. 40° N, 74° W → **Northern**, **Western**
4. 23° S, 43° W → **Southern**, **Western**
5. 1° N, 103° E → **Northern**, **Eastern**
6. 56° N, 3° W → **Northern**, **Western**

Part D — Match the city

1. 51° N, 0° → **D** (London)
2. 35° N, 139° E → **A** (Tokyo)
3. 33° S, 18° E → **E** (Cape Town)
4. 19° N, 99° W → **B** (Mexico City)
5. 55° N, 37° E → **F** (Moscow)
6. 12° S, 77° W → **C** (Lima)

Part E — Think it through

1. **Latitude alone gives a whole circle around the Earth, not a point.**
   The ship could be anywhere along that parallel. Longitude is what narrows it to one place.
2. **Likely shared: similar climate and similar day length. Likely different: time of day, language, country.**
   Latitude controls how directly sunlight arrives, so it drives climate. Longitude controls local time.