

Geographic Grid: Latitudes and Longitudes

Exercises

I. Short Answer Questions

Question 1.

What is a geographic grid ?

Answer:

The network of the latitudes and the longitudes is known as a geographical grid.

Question 2.

Who devised the lines of latitude and longitude ?

Answer:

Eratosthenes, the Greek philosopher, first time devised the lines of latitude and longitude.

Question 3.

What are lines of latitude and longitude ?

Answer:

The latitudes are the parallel circles with respect to the equator reducing in length northwards and southwards and the poles are the points only. On the other hand longitudes are equal in length drawn from North Pole to South Pole with their intervals reducing towards poles.

Question 4.

Mention two characteristics of lines of latitude ?

Answer:

- (a) The lines of latitude are parallel to the equator.
- (b) The lines of latitude are drawn at an angular distance with respect to the equator.

Question 5.

Name the two hemispheres of the earth made by the Equator.

Answer:

Northern hemisphere and Southern hemisphere.

Question 6.

Express 1° angular distance in kilometres.

Answer:

As the circumference of the equator is nearly about 40,000 km.

So 1° angular distance in km. will be $40,000/360 = 111$ km. approximately.

Question 7.

Name the thermal zones of the earth.

Answer:

The thermal zones of the earth are Tropical, Temperate and Polar zones.

Question 8.

With the help of degrees, name the important lines of latitude.

Answer:

- (a) Tropic of Cancer — $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{N}$
- (b) Tropic of Capricorn — $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{S}$.
- (c) Arctic Circle — $66\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{N}$.
- (d) Antarctic Circle — $66\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{S}$
- (e) North Pole — 90°N
- (f) South Pole — 90°S

Question 9.

Which temperature zone receives almost vertical rays of the sun and which zones receive slanting rays ?

Answer:

The Tropical zone gets vertical rays of the sun, while temperate and polar zones receive slanting rays of the sun.

Question 10.

Which line is known as the Prime Meridian ? State its importance.

Answer:

Greenwich Meridian is called the 'Prime Meridian' or the 0° longitude. The time is calculated with respect to this Meridian. So it is the basic Meridian and time is written as G.M.T. (Greenwich Meridian Time) The earth takes 4 minutes for moving 1° distance.

Question 11.

How can the general climate of an area be described with the help of the lines of latitudes ?

Answer:

The temperature decreases northwards and southwards from the equator. The region within $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{N}$ and $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{S}$ will get tropical climate with ample temperature and rainfall. On the other hand the regions between $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{N} - 66\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{N}$ and $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{S} - 66\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{S}$ will get temperate climate, while the regions known as Arctic and Antarctic circles get very cold polar climate as Tundra region.

Question 12.

Which line of longitude is used to fix the World Standard Time ? State its value in degrees.

Answer:

Greenwich Meridian is used to fix the World Standard Time. Its value in degrees is 0° . This time is written as G.M.T.

Question 13.

State the longitudinal value in degrees of Indian Standard Meridian.

Answer:

Longitudinal value of Indian Standard Meridian is $82\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ E. It passes midway through India nearly along the city of Allahabad.

Question 14.

What is meant by IDL ? State its importance.

Answer:

IDL means the International Date Line, which is along 180° E & W. The date or day changes while crossing this line i.e. while there is Monday in the Eastern Hemisphere i.e.

$0^\circ - 180^\circ$ E, there will be Sunday in the Western Hemisphere i. e. $0^\circ - 180^\circ$ W.

Question 15.

What are the Great Circle Routes ? State their importance.

Answer:

The Great Circle Routes follow the great circles i. e. the perimeters of the earth, which cover the shortest distances between any two places in spite of the zigzag routes along the surface of earth. These circles are beneficial for following the shortest distances between any two places and help in saving the time.

i. e. the shortest routes are covered in minimum time span.

Question 16.

What is a globe ? State the importance of a globe.

Answer:

A globe is a man-made spherical model of the earth. A globe is very useful model to display the actual shape of the earth with its tilted axis ; The rotation and revolution of the earth can be very clearly shown by it along with the continents and oceans.

II. Give reasons for each of the following**Question 1.**

Lines of latitude carve out the heat zones of the earth.

Answer:

The Temperature goes on decreasing from the equator towards the poles. So the

latitudinal zones are the actual heat zones of the earth, namely tropical, temperate and polar zones.

Question 2.

Lines of longitude are also called Meridians of longitude?

Answer:

The word 'meridian' means related to noon or 12 p.m. As every longitude receives the noon time or 12 p.m. at different intervals where the sun's rays are exactly vertical over a particular longitude. On a particular longitude the noon-time is the same from north to south ; so a longitude is also called a Meridians of longitude.

Question 3.

Diametrically opposite lines of longitude and the Equator are called Great Circles.

Answer:

Every longitude along with its opposite longitude makes a complete circle around the earth and another complete big circle is the equator; while the latitudes make smaller circles along with the poles to be only points. So the equator and the longitudinal lines around the earth are called the Great Circles.

Question 4.

The Greenwich time is called Greenwich Mean Time.

Answer:

The time of any place or country is calculated according to the 0° longitude or Greenwich meridian, the time change is of 4 minutes for every 0° longitude. So it is called Greenwich Mean Time.

Question 5.

IDL deviates and goes zig-zag near some Islands in the Pacific ocean.

Answer:

IDL is not a straight line, but it deviates in order to classify some scattered Islands in a particular divisions of Hemispheres, so that the day and time can be calculated according to the line, as the natural position of the Islands is haphazard.

Question 6.

A globe is the most popular model of the earth.

Answer:

As our earth is spherical in shape, so it can be best represented by a spherical model like a globe. A globe illustrates the position of continents and oceans, the tilted axis of the earth, its rotation, the sea and air routes etc. So a globe is a perfect model of the earth.

III. Long Answer Questions

Question 1.

Describe the lines of latitude, their importance and use.

Answer:

The face of the earth is divided into various parallel circles with respect to the equator on both sides at different angular distances. These lines are very important to decide the climate and temperature range of any place or region as the temperature goes on decreasing from the equator to polewards.

Question 2.

With reference to the International Date Line, state the following:

- (a) Its meaning and application.
- (b) The important deviations it makes and reasons for the same.
- (c) Give an example of how time lost or gained is computed with reference to this line.

Answer:

(a) The time and date changes as we cross the International Date Line i.e. the navigators or pilots have to lose one day while crossing westwards and gain one day while crossing eastwards i.e. When one travels from Tokyo to San Francisco on Monday, he will reach San Francisco on Sunday.

(b) The International Date Line is not a straight line but has some deviations in order to adjust with the pattern of the landforms and some islands to decide for the time and date of these places and regions.

(c) If we are moving from Hawaii Islands towards Shanghai on Tuesday, we will reach there on Wednesday or Thursday probably, but if we are going eastwards from Shanghai to Hawaii islands on Tuesday. We may reach there either on Tuesday or Monday.

Question 3.

Describe the lines of longitude and state their use in relation to distance and time.

Answer:

A longitude is the angular distance of a place east or west of the Prime Meridian or 0° longitude.

The lines of longitude are the great semi-circles joining North pole and South pole and are equal in length. These are $0^\circ - 180^\circ\text{E}$ and $0^\circ - 180^\circ\text{W}$ longitudes or total 360° . As the earth takes 24 hours to make a complete rotation along its axis crossing 360° lines of longitude, so earth takes nearly 4 minutes to move one degree (1°) longitude or 111 km length or distance. There is a difference of time of one hour between 15° interval of longitudes. According to the clock-time, EGA stands for East-Gain-Add and WLS means West Lose Subtract. In other words for each 10° longitude towards east 4 minutes are to be added and towards west for each 1° longitude 4 minutes are to be subtracted.

Question 4.

Make a detailed study of finding time with the help of longitudes. Give one practical example.

Answer:

Indian Standard Time is based on $82\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ E longitude. So if the time in India is 12 noon, so it will be 6.30 A.M. in England or GMT. The time difference between 0° and $82\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ E will be $82.5 \times 4 = 330$ minutes or $330 \div 60 = 5\frac{1}{2}$ hours. So there is difference of $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours between India and England, as England lies in the west, so the time will be $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours less than India.

IV. Problem Solving

An Example:

A cricket match was to be held at Birmingham at 9 a.m. local time. The position of Birmingham is 5° W. Calculate the time the viewers have to tune their television in Sydney 151° E.

Answer:

The local time at Birmingham is 9 am.

The location of Birmingham is 5° W of Prime Meridian.

The GMT would be 9:20 a.m.

$[9.00\text{hrs} + (5^{\circ} \times 4\text{min}) = 9.00\text{hrs} + 20 \text{ min} = 9.20 \text{ a.m.}$ Sydney is located at 151° E of Prime Meridian

At any point of time Sydney would be $151 \times 4 = 604 \text{ min} = 10 \text{ hrs } 4 \text{ min}$ ahead of GMT (Sydney is to the East of the Prime Meridian so local time would be ahead of GMT)

When it is 9:20 a.m. GMT the local time at Sydney would be $(9:20 + 10:04) 19:24 \text{ hrs}$ or 7:24 p.m.

in order to watch the Birmingham match at Sydney the viewers would have to tune their televisions at 7:24 p.m. local time.

Answer the following questions

Question 1.

An important programme was to be broadcast from Mumbai at 7.30 p.m. This was heard by some Indian sailors near Ivory Coast in West Africa at 20° W longitude. What was the local time there ?

Answer:

According to the Indian Standard Time 7.30 p.m. based on $82\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ E. Longitude was the time at Mumbai. The longitudinal difference between Mumbai and Ivory Coast at 20° W is $82.5 + 20 = 102.5$. So $102.5 \times 4 = 410.0$ minutes = 6 hours 50 minutes, i.e. the time will be 6 hours 50 minutes less than 7.30 p.m. So the time will be 12.40 p.m

Question 2.

What is the longitude of a place where the local time 1:15 p.m. when it is 4 a.m. at Chicago (88°W) ?

Answer:

The time difference between the two places is 9 hours and 15 minutes or $540 + 15 = 555$ minutes So the longitudinal difference will be $555/4 = 138.75^{\circ}$ degrees. So the longitude of the required place will be $50^{\circ} 45' \text{ E}$ i.e. it will cover 88° from west to 0° and $50^{\circ} 45'$ east from 0° or Greenwich line.

Question 3.

Calculate the time at Durban (longitude 30°E) when the time is 7.00 a.m. at New York (75°W).

Answer:

The longitudinal difference between Durban and New York is $30^{\circ} + 75^{\circ} = 105^{\circ}$, so the time will be $105 \times 4 = 420$ minutes ahead from New York. There is the difference of 420 minutes or 7 hours, or 2 p.m.

Question 4.

Calculate the longitude of a place where the local time is 6.00 a.m., when the time is 9.00 p.m. at New Delhi on longitude 77° E .

Answer:

The time difference between the required place and New Delhi is $6 + 9 = 15$ hours, so the time in minutes $= 15 \times 60 = 900$ minutes So the longitudinal difference $= 900/4 = 225^{\circ}$. So the place will be in the west $225^{\circ} - 77^{\circ} = 148^{\circ} \text{ W}$.

Question 5.

Calculate the local time at Singapore (104°E) when it is 6.00 p.m. at Greenwich.

Answer:

The longitudinal difference at Singapore and Greenwich is 104° , so the time difference is $104 \times 4 = 416$ minutes i.e. 6 hours 56 minutes. So the time at Singapore will be 12.56 a.m.

Question 6.

Calculate the location of a place where the local time is noon when it is 7.30 p.m. at Greenwich.

Answer:

Time difference is $12 - 7.30 = 4.30$ or 4 hours 30 minutes $= 240 + 30 = 270$ minutes So the longitudinal difference is $270/4 = 67.5^{\circ}$. So the longitude is 67.5°W or $67 \frac{1}{2}^{\circ} \text{ W}$.

Question 7.

What is the time and day at Mumbai (73°E) when it is Sunday 10.30 p.m. at Shillong (92°E) ?

Answer:

The longitudinal difference is $92^\circ - 73^\circ = 19^\circ$. So the time difference is $19 \times 4 = 76$ minutes or 1 hours 16 minutes or the time at Mumbai is 9.14 p.m.

Practice Questions (Solved)

Question 1.

How many lines of latitude are there ?

Answer:

$180 + 1 = 181$

Question 2.

How many lines of longitude are there ?

Answer:

$360 - 1 = 359$.

Question 3.

Which meridian is called Prime meridian ?

Answer:

0° meridian.

Question 4.

What is the latitude of equator ?

Answer:

0°

Question 5.

What is the latitude of Tropic of Cancer ?

Answer:

$23 \frac{1}{2}^\circ$ North.

Question 6.

What is the latitude of Tropic of Capricorn ?

Answer:

$23 \frac{1}{2}^\circ$ South.

Question 7.

Which is the longest line of latitude ?

Answer:

Equator.

Question 8.

Which star is located vertically above the North pole ?

Answer:

Pole-Star

Question 9.

Into how many time zones, has the world been divided?

Answer:

24

Question 10.

What do you mean by meridians ?

Answer:

Lines of longitude.

Question 11.

What is the relation between Temperature and Latitude of a place ?

Answer:

The temperature decreases with latitude.

Question 12.

What is latitude of North pole and South pole ?

Answer:

90° N and 90° S.

Question 13.

Why are there 180 parallels of latitude ?

Answer:

Because North pole to South pole (a hemisphere) has an angle of 180°.

Question 14.

Name the two hemispheres of the Earth made by the equator ?

Answer:

Northern Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere.

Question 15.

Which temperature zone receives slanting rays ?

Answer:

Polar Zone.

Question 16.

Name the two reference lines with respect to which the distances of various places on the earth's surface are measured ?

Answer:

Prime Meridian and Equator.

Question 17.

What is the rate of change of time per degree of longitude ?

Answer:

4 minutes per degree.

Question 18.

Why are the letters N or S added to latitude values ?

Answer:

The latitudes in Northern Hemisphere are marked N while the latitude in Southern Hemisphere marked S.

Question 19.

Why are letters E or W added to longitude values ?

Answer:

The longitudes in the Eastern Hemisphere are marked E while the longitudes in the Western Hemisphere are marked W.

Question 20.

What is the importance of Tropic of Capricorn ?

Answer:

It marks the Southern limit of tropical zone.

Question 21.

What is meant by "the Parallels of Latitude ?

Answer:

If you examine a globe or map, you will see two sets of lines drawn across it. One set of lines runs north and south of Equator and Parallel to it. These lines are called Parallels of a Latitude. The total number of such lines, if drawn at a distance of one degree, from one another is 180 : 90 North of the equator and 90 South of the equator.

Question 22.

(a) What do you mean by Longitude of a place ? How is longitude of a place determined ?

(b) What is the "Prime Meridian" ?

(c) What is the difference between Prime Meridian and other meridians of longitude ?

(d) Explain how latitudes and longitudes help to determine the position of a place on the

globe ?

(e) Explain how the longitude of a place affects the time.

OR

State the rate of change of time with longitude.

Answer:

(a) Longitude is the distance of a place east and west of the Prime Meridian along a parallel of latitude. This distance is measured in degrees.

When we say that the Longitude of Delhi is 77° East, we mean that Delhi lies East of the Prime Meridian and its distance from the Prime Meridian is 77°

The Longitude of a place can be determined by comparing its Local Time with Greenwich Time. Greenwich Time can be known either by radio or by means of a watch which keeps Greenwich Time. Captains of ships generally use a Chronometer for this purpose. A Chronometer is a time piece which keeps accurate time and which is not affected by change in temperature. Now suppose that when it is 2 p.m. at Greenwich, another place shows 5 p.m. The difference between the times of two places is 3 hours, that is 180 minutes. Thus the place is $=180 / 4 = 45^\circ$ away from the Prime Meridian and since its time is ahead of Greenwich. Its longitude will be 45° East.

(b) The Prime (or First) Meridian is the meridian from which longitude is measured. It is numbered. 0° longitude. It is the meridian which passes through Greenwich (near London). Thus the Prime Meridian is also called Greenwich line.

(c) Other meridians of longitude are the lines which join all places having the same angular distance, east or west, of the Prime Meridian.

(d) The intersection of latitude and longitude points out the exact position of a place on the earth's surface. For example London is situated at $51^\circ 30' N$ (latitude) and $0.5^\circ W$ (longitude). With the help of these intersecting lines, it is convenient to locate the position of London on the map. Actually, latitude and longitude are both imaginary lines drawn on a map or a globe in order to locate the position of a place or a region on the earth's surface.

(e) As the Earth rotates from west to east about its own axis, the zone of illumination moves slowly towards the west. This accounts for variation in the time of Sunrise and Sunset at different places on the Earth. The Earth takes 24 hours to complete one rotation. This means that 360 degrees of longitude are covered in a period of 24 hours. This gives rise to a time difference of $[24 \times 60/360]$ or 4 minutes for 1° of longitude. The time difference is to be added in case of places to the east of a point. In case of places to the west, the time difference is to be subtracted. It is possible to calculate the time at a given place A from the time recorded at B and the longitude difference between stations A and B.

Question 23.

- (a) What is "Greenwich Mean Time" ?
- (b) How far is it correct to say that local time is the Sun time ?
- (c) How can you say that the use of 'Local Time' is very inconvenient nowadays in practical life ?
- (d) Why do some countries have many time zones ?

OR

What are 'Time Zones' ?

Answer:

- (a) Greenwich Mean Time (GMT):- It is based on 0° longitude of a place of this name near London. GMT is adopted uniformly by all countries to keep time. It forms the basis of fixing Time Zones.
- (b) When the Sun reaches the highest point in the sky, while crossing the meridian of any place, it is mid-day or 12.00 noon at that place. If watches are adjusted according to this time, then it will be known as local time. But the highest position of the sun can be found only on a sunny day. Therefore it is correct to say that local time is the Sun-time.
- (c) Use of Local time is very inconvenient now-a-days in practical life, because if we have to travel through many countries, it will be convenient to us to follow one particular standard time, according to which we can set our watches with respect to a particular country and its standard time with reference to Greenwich or Prime Meridian (0° Longitude) to bring about international uniformity. This is known as Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). The Indian Standard time is 5 hrs 30 minutes ahead of GMT.
- (d) Large countries like Russia, Canada and the United States have vast longitudinal extent. They do not have a single Standard Time for the whole Country. They have many time zones, with each time zone covering about 15° of longitude. The erstwhile Soviet Union had 11 times zones to cover 165° of longitudinal extent. Canada and the United States have five time zones extending from the Atlantic coast of the Pacific coast. There is time difference of five hours between the two coasts.

Question 24.

Give reasons for the following :

- (a) There are no latitudes higher than 90°N and 90°S .
- (b) The opposite meridians of longitude form a Great Circle.
- (c) Local time is a theoretical reality, while Standard Time is a practical necessity.
- (d) "The International Date Line is not a straight line coinciding with longitude 180 degrees." Why ?
- (e) The distance between two consecutive meridian, is equal to about 111 kilometres only at the equator.
- (f) When it is noon at Cairo (30°E), the local time in New York (75°W) is 5.00 a.m.
- (g) All parallel other than equator are not Great Circles.

(h) A person, travelling from Mumbai to London, alters the time on his watch at several places.

Answer:

(a) The total circumference of a circle is 360° and the distance between the Equator and the North Pole is one-fourth of the circumference i.e. 90° . So we have 90 latitudes towards north and 90 towards south, which are denoted as 90° N and 90° S respectively.

(b) The opposite meridians of longitude form a Great circle because by each of them the world is divided into two equal parts

(c) Local time may differ from place to place. Therefore, it is only a theoretic reality. On the other hand, standard time is the same for a particular country. It is a practical necessity for the sake of uniformity of time.

(d) The International Date Line passes through the Pacific ocean where there are no land masses. It follows 180° meridian for most of its distance. The date line is zig-zag in some places to avoid the confusion of time on the same island. It avoids some islands and deviates from 180° . In Northern Hemisphere, it bends to the West of 180° while in the Southern Hemisphere it bends Eastwards.

(e) The circumference of the Earth is approximately 40,000 km. It covers an angle of 360 degrees. The distance between two consecutive parallels of latitude is everywhere the same. This is because lines of latitude are parallel lines. Therefore one degree of latitude. = $40,000/360 = 111\text{km}$ (approximately.)

On the other hand, the distance between two consecutive meridians of longitude is 111 km only at the equator and gradually decreases with distance from the equator. This is because the meridians of longitude converge at the two poles.

(f)

New York	Greenwich	Cairo
75°W	0°	30°E
	?	12.00

Longitude of Cairo = 30° E

Longitude of New York = 75° W

Difference in Longitude = $30^\circ + 75^\circ = 105^\circ$

(Add because Cairo is in the East of Greenwich and New York is in the West of Greenwich).

\therefore Difference in time = $105 \times 4 = 420$ minutes = 7 hours

As New York is situated in the West of Greenwich, its local time will be behind that of Cairo. So we subtract.

	Hours	Minutes
Local time at Cairo =	12	0
Subtract =	7	00
Local time at New York =	5	00 (a.m.)

(h) it is because of change in longitude at several places

Question 25.

What do you mean by the Latitude of place ?

Answer:

Latitude is the distance of a place north or south of the equator along a meridian. This distance is measured in degree. When we say that the Latitude of Delhi is 28-j North, we mean that Delhi lies North of the equator and its distance from the equator is 28 1/2.

Question 26.

How are Latitudes measured ?

Answer:

The latitude of a place is the angular distance of the point north or south of the equator measured in degrees. The equator is taken as 0° latitude. Latitudes are measured from 0° to 90° N and 0° to 90° S. The distance from the equator to 90° N covers a distance of 1/4 of the circumference of the Earth or 140,000 km. One degree of latitude is equivalent to the length of about 111 km or 69 miles.

Question 27.

Explain why the lines of longitude are called meridians of longitude ?

Answer:

Lines of longitude are lines which join all places having the same angular distance east or west of the Prime Meridian. All lines of longitude are semicircles of equal length. Lines of longitude are also called Meridians because all places along a lines of longitude experience mid-day at the same time.

Question 28.

State two properties of lines of latitude.

Answer:

1. The length of the lines of latitudes decrease with distance from the equator.
2. All lines of latitude are circles parallel to the equator.

Question 29.

State two properties of lines of longitude.

Answer:

1. The distance between two consecutive longitude decreases gradually with distance from the equator.
2. All lines of longitude are semicircles of equal length.

Question 30.

Clearly distinguish Longitude from Lines of Longitude.

Answer:

Longitude is the distance of a place from the Prime Meridian while lines of longitude are lines drawn on a map or globe showing the longitude of all the places at the distance from the Prime Meridian. These lines join the north and south poles and cut the Equator at right angles.

Question 31.

What do you mean by “Meridians or Lines of Longitude” ?

Answer:

The other set of lines join the north and south poles and cuts the equator at right angles. These lines are called Lines of Longitude or Meridians. The total number of such lines, if drawn 1° apart, is $360^\circ - 180^\circ$ East and 180° West of the Prime Meridian. It should be noted that 180° East and 180° West in the same lines.

Question 32.

What is the latitude of :

1. Equator
2. North Pole
3. South Pole
4. Tropic of Cancer
5. Tropic of Capricorn
6. Arctic Circle
7. Antarctic circle ? Also give their characteristics.

Answer:

1. Latitude of Equator The latitude of the equator is 0° . Here the days and nights are equal throughout the year and the rays of the sun fall exactly vertically at noon on March 21 and September 23.
2. Latitude of North Pole The latitude of the North pole is 90° North because it is situated north of the Equator at a distance of a quarter of the circumference of the earth. Here days and nights are of six-months duration.

3. Latitude of South Pole Latitude of the south pole is 90° south, because it is situated South of Equator at a distance of a quarter of the circumference of the earth. Here the days and night are of six months duration.
4. The Latitude of the Tropic of Cancer is $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ North. Here the rays of the sun fall vertically at noon on June 21.
5. The Latitude of the Tropic of Capricorn is $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ South. Here the rays of the sun fall vertically at noon on December 22.
6. The Latitude of the Arctic Circle is $66\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ North. Here once the year (June 21) the day is of 24 hours duration and once in the year (December 22) the night is of 24 hours duration.
7. The Latitude of the Antarctic Circle is $66\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ South. Here once in the year (December 22nd) the day is of 24 hours duration and once in year (June 21) the night is of 24 hours duration.

Question 33.

What adjustment has to be made when ships cross the International Date Line ?

OR

Explain why a day appears to be lost in sailing round the world from east to west and gained when travelling from west to east.

Answer:

The earth rotates on its axis from west to east, hence places in the east have their sun rise earlier than places in the west. Now if a man travels round the world from east to west, for every degree of longitude covered; he will have to set back his watch by four minutes. Thus after covering 360° when he returns to the place from where he started he will have to set back his watch $360 \times 4 / 60 = 24$ hrs. Thus he will appear to have lost a day. When Francis Drake returned to England after circumnavigating the globe, he thought it was Saturday, where as actually it was Sunday. The reason was that he had traveled from east to west, and had under calculated a day. On the other hand if a man travels from west to east, for every degree of longitude covered he will put forward his watch by four minutes and for 360° he will forward it 24 hrs. When he returns to the place from where he started he will appear to have gained a day. When Cap. Basil Hailed reached Manila after circumnavigating the globe, he thought it was Monday; where as actually it was Sunday. The reason was that he had traveled from west to east and had over calculated a day.

Question 34.

Define Equator. What is its main function ?

Answer:

Equator is the parallel of zero degree latitude. It is an imaginary circle round the Earth bisecting it into halves i.e. Northern * Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere. It serves as reference line for the location of different places on the earth.

Question 35.

What will be local time at Delhi 77° E longitude when is 3 p.m. at Tokyo 139° E longitude ?

Answer:

Longitude of Delhi = 77° E

Longitude of Tokyo = 139° E

Difference per degree – $139^\circ - 77^\circ = 62^\circ$

Difference of time per degree = 4 minutes , Difference between the time of Delhi and Tokyo = $4 \times 62 = 248$ minutes = 4 hours 8 minutes

Since Delhi lies west of Tokyo we shall subtract 4 hours 8 minutes from Tokyo time.

Hence local time at Delhi is 10.52 a.m.

Question 36.

What will be the local time at Madras 80° E ? When it is 9 P.M. at New York 74° W ?

Answer:

Longitude of Madras = 80° E

Longitude of New York = 74° W

Difference in Degrees = $80^\circ + 74^\circ = 154^\circ$

Difference in time per degree = 4 minutes

Difference between the times of two places = $4 \times 154 = 616 = 10$ hour 16 minutes

Since Madras lies East of New York, we shall add 10 hours 16 minutes to the local time of New York. The local time at Madras will therefore, be 7.16 A.M. next morning.

Question 37.

“The degree of longitude decreases in length poleward”. Why?

Answer:

Equator is the longest parallel on the Earth. All other parallels become shorter polewards due to spherical shape of the Earth. So the meridians near the poles have a narrow space. One degree of longitude is the longest at the equator (111 km) at 45° latitude it is 79 km, at 60° latitude it is 55 km and at poles, it is zero km.

Question 38.

What is the relation between longitude and time ?

Or

“There is a difference of 4 minutes of time for one degree of longitude”. Why ?

Answer:

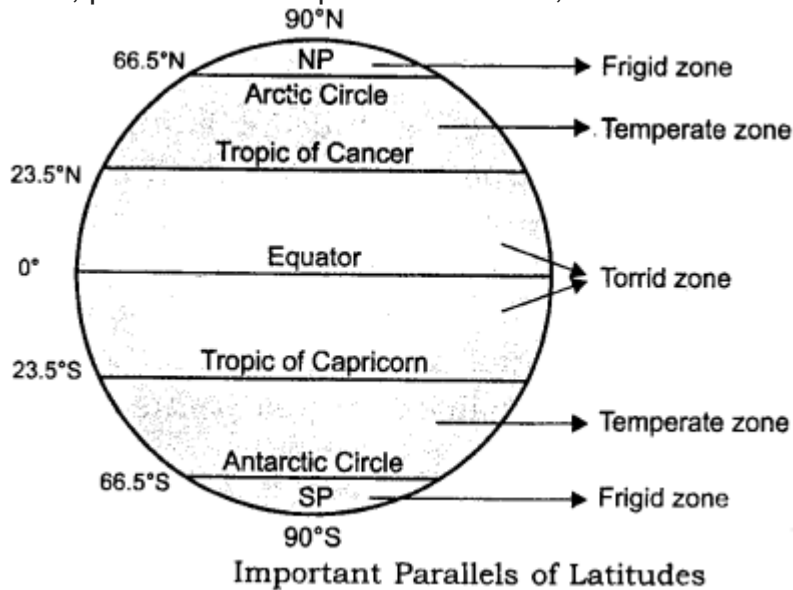
There is a close relation between longitude and time. The Earth makes one complete rotation of 360 degrees in 24 hours. It passes through 15 degrees in one hour or one degree in four minutes. Thus, there is a difference of 4 minutes of time for one degree of longitude. As the Earth moves from West to East, the places East of Greenwich gain time whereas the places West of Greenwich lose time.

Question 39.

“Lines of latitude are called parallels of latitude” Why?

Answer:

Lines of latitudes join the places of same latitude. These are circles drawn round the earth, parallel to the equator. Therefore, these are called parallels of latitude.



Question 40.

A ship crossing international date line at mid-night on Wednesday Eastwards, find that it is mid-night Tuesday on American side. Why ?

Answer:

A ship crossing international date line from West to East gains a day. It repeats a day. A day is subtracted from the calendar. So when it is Wednesday mid-night on Asiatic side, it is Tuesday midnight on the American side.

Question 41.

Mid-days Sun can be seen overhead in Chennai twice a year, but not even once in Delhi. Why ?

Answer:

Tropic of Cancer is the Northernmost limit of overhead Sun. Sun’s rays do not fall vertical beyond 23 1/2° N latitude. Delhi is located North of Tropic of Cancer, so the Sun is never overhead at Delhi. But Chennai has overhead Sun twice a year.

1. When the Sun moves northward, from equator to Tropic of Cancer, the Sun is overhead at Chennai.
2. When the Sun shifts from Tropic of Cancer to equator, then again Chennai has overhead Sun.

Question 42.

Explain why there is no higher latitude other than 90° N and 90° S.

Answer:

Latitude is the angular distance from the plane of the equator. All of surfaces (planes) or circles make a maximum angle of 90° from the plane of the equator. Therefore, maximum latitude is 90° N in the Northern Hemisphere and 98° Southern Hemisphere.

Question 43.

Name the five important parallels of latitude.

Answer:

- (a) Equator is the starting line for all the parallels. It is zero degree parallel.
- (b) Tropic of Cancer – 23 1/2° North parallel.
- (c) Tropic of Capricorn – 23 1/2° South parallel.
- (d) Arctic circle – 66 1/2° North parallel.
- (e) Antarctic circle – 66 1/2° South parallel.

Question 44.

- (a) What do you mean by local time ?
- (b) What is the local time when it is noon at a place ?
- (c) What are the main characteristics of local time ?

Answer:

(a) Local time : The local time of a place is the time of its own meridian. The local time is calculated by the position of the Sun at noon at a given place. When the Sun at any place is highest in the sky. It is noon.

(b) It is 12 o'clock. All the watches of that place should be set according to that time.

(c) **Characteristics :**

1. Every meridian has a different local time.
2. The places on the same meridian have the same local time.
3. The Eastern places will be ahead of Western places for local time.
4. Sundial was a simple and old method to determine local time.

Question 45.

- (a) What is the rule of changing the date while crossing the international date line ?
- (b) What is meant by 'six-day week' and 'eight-day week'?
- (c) Explain the above with the help of a map.

Answer:

Rule : On crossing the date line, the ships adjust the dates according to the following rules :

(a) When crossing westward, towards Asia (from U.S.A. to Japan), a day must be added.

When crossing the date line, ship misses a day from the calendar and have 'six day week'. If a ship crosses the date line on Monday, the next day will be Wednesday and not Tuesday.

(b) When crossing eastward towards America (from Japan to U.S.A.) a day must be subtracted. When crossing the date line ships gain a day from the calendar and have an 'eight- day week'. It repeats a day. If ship crosses the date line on Monday, the next day will be again Monday and not Tuesday.