

Physical Geography Definitions List

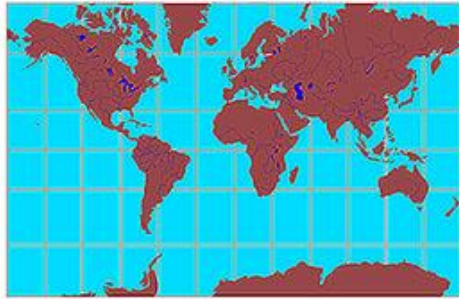
Geography – The study of the earth, its climate, products and inhabitants.

- Bay:** A body of water partially enclosed by land with a mouth accessible by the sea.
- Continent:** One of the seven (7) principal land masses of the Earth, including **Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America** and **South America**.
- Delta:** A marshy region formed by the deposits of **silt** (loam) at the mouth of a river.
- Gulf:** A large area of sea or ocean partially enclosed by land.
- Hemisphere:** Either the Northern or Southern half of the Earth as divided by the **Equator**, or the Eastern or Western half as divided by a meridian.
- Island:** A piece of sub-continental land that is surrounded on all sides by water.
- Isthmus:** A narrow strip of land connecting two larger land areas, usually with water on either side.
- Lake:** A large inland body of fresh or salt water.
- Latitude:** An imaginary line that circles the Earth at a particular latitude and that is parallel to the equator, distance north or south of the equator measured in degrees up to 90 degrees.
- Longitude:** An imaginary line that circles the Earth at a particular longitude; the distance measured in degrees east or west from an imaginary line (called the prime meridian) that goes from the North Pole to the South Pole and that passes through Greenwich, England.

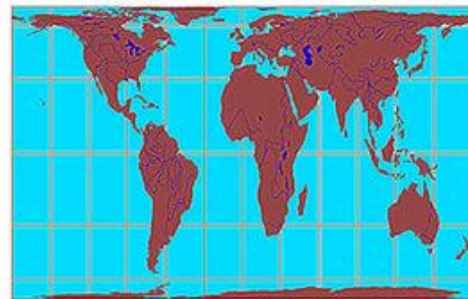
- Meridian:** An imaginary circle passing through the North and South geographic poles; lines of longitude measuring East or West to 180 degrees of the Prime Meridian (0°) which runs through Greenwich in London, England.
- Monsoon:** A wind that shifts in direction at certain times of each year, often carrying heavy rains.
- Mountains:** A significant natural elevation of the Earth's surface having a considerable mass and generally steep sides.
- Ocean:** Any of the principal divisions of the Earth's salt-water surface (71%), including the **Atlantic, Pacific** and **Indian** Oceans and their southern extensions in **Antarctica** and the **Arctic** Ocean.
- Parallel:** Any of the imaginary lines representing degrees of latitude that encircle the Earth parallel to the plane of the Equator (0°) measuring North and South to 90 degrees (geographic poles).
- Peninsula:** A piece of land that projects into a body of water on three of its sides.
- Plain:** An extensive, level, usually treeless area of land.
- Plateau:** An elevated, level expanse of high land; a tableland.
- Region:** A large portion of the Earth's surface unified by physical or human characteristics such as language, culture, economic activity, or a political system.
- River:** A large natural stream of water that starts in higher land (mountains) emptying into an ocean, lake, or another body of water.
- Savanna:** A flat, grassy plain.
- Sea:** A relatively large body of salt water completely or partially enclosed by land.

Strait: A narrow channel joining two larger bodies of water.

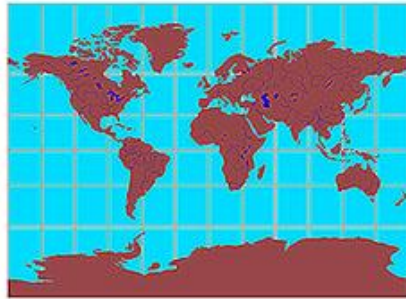
Typhoon: A hurricane occurring especially in the region of the Philippines or the China Sea.



Mercator Projection



Gall-Peters Projection



Miller Cylindrical Projection



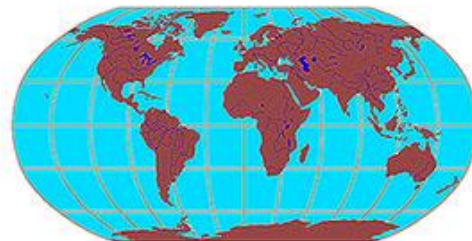
Mollweide Projection



Goode's Homolosine Equal-area Projection



Sinusoidal Equal-Area Projection



Robinson Projection

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