

Earth's Invisible Divides

Read how two imaginary lines help describe locations on Earth.

3.2.b "locating and describing the equator, the Prime Meridian, and the four hemispheres."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the names of the two invisible lines. Circle each name of a hemisphere so you can see how the lines divide Earth.

Lines Around Earth

- ① Earth is round like a ball, so people use invisible lines to describe places. The equator circles Earth halfway between the North Pole and the South Pole. It divides Earth into a northern half and a southern half. These halves are called the Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere. A place north of the equator is in the Northern Hemisphere.
- ② Another invisible line runs from the North Pole to the South Pole. This line is called the Prime Meridian. It divides Earth into an eastern half and a western half. These halves are the Eastern Hemisphere and the Western Hemisphere. A place east of the Prime Meridian is in the Eastern Hemisphere. A place west of it is in the Western Hemisphere.
- ③ The equator and the Prime Meridian help people give a location two hemisphere names. First, decide whether the place is north or south of the equator. Next, decide whether it is east or west of the Prime Meridian. For example, a place south of the equator and west of the Prime Meridian belongs to two different hemispheres.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 A village is north of the equator. Which hemisphere is it in?

2 A ship is west of the Prime Meridian. Which hemisphere is it in?

3 A bird flies across the equator from south to north. Which hemisphere does it enter?

4 A town is north of the equator and east of the Prime Meridian. Name its two hemispheres.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Invent a place on Earth. Write exactly two sentences that tell whether it is north or south of the equator and east or west of the Prime Meridian, then name its two hemispheres.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the names of the two invisible lines. Circle each name of a hemisphere so you can see how the lines divide Earth. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	A village is north of the equator. Which hemisphere is it in?	Northern Hemisphere.
2	A ship is west of the Prime Meridian. Which hemisphere is it in?	Western Hemisphere.
3	A bird flies across the equator from south to north. Which hemisphere does it enter?	Northern Hemisphere.
4	A town is north of the equator and east of the Prime Meridian. Name its two hemispheres.	Northern Hemisphere and Eastern Hemisphere.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Harbor Point is south of the equator and east of the Prime Meridian. It is in the Southern Hemisphere and the Eastern Hemisphere.

Accept any invented location that gives one north or south direction and one east or west direction. The two hemisphere names must match the directions given.