A Global Society

We often hear that we live in a global society. Those blueberries you had for breakfast may have come from the country Chile on the continent of South America. Maybe your car began its life on the continent of Asia in the country Japan.

Learning to read the globe — like learning to read a map — is a great way to get a sense of how we’re all connected in a global culture. But remember, whereas a map is flat, a globe is a sphere, and like the Earth, is round.

The Earth’s surface is covered by bodies of water and pieces of land. We call the largest bodies of water oceans and the largest pieces of land continents. Seven continents and four major oceans fit together like a jigsaw puzzle to cover most of the planet.

1. What are the seven continents?

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

2. List the four major oceans.

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

3. Which ocean is between Africa and North America?

_____________________________________________________________________________________

4. Which continent is between the Indian and Atlantic Oceans?

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

**Keep it Straight**

What’s the difference between a continent, a country and a city?

Draw line to match these words on the left to the correct example on the right.

1) continent  a) Canada
2) city b) North America
3) country c) Boston
LOOK AT THE MAP OF SOUTH AMERICA

5. What is the largest country on the South American continent?
____________________________________________

6. Which two countries share the longest border?
____________________________________________

CHECK OUT THE LINES
What are those lines on the globe? Lines that run from side to side, or east and west, are lines of latitude. Lines that run up and down, or north and south, are lines of longitude. When the lines intersect, they help map readers pinpoint a specific location on the Earth.

The most important line of latitude is the **equator** (pronounced ee-KWAY-tor) Like a belt, the equator wraps around the middle of the globe and divides it into halves — north and south. Areas near the equator are generally warmer than areas that are farther away.

**tips**
How can you remember that lines of latitude run side to side and lines of longitude run from top to bottom of the globe? Just think of a ladder. Lines of latitude are the steps on the ladder and lines of longitude — which begins with the word long — are the long sides.

PRACTICE
Using a globe or a world map, identify the continent where each of the following countries is located by writing the name of the continent in the space below. Is the country north or south of the equator? Write N for north, S for south.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Continent</th>
<th>North or South of the Equator</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Italy</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Mozambique</td>
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<td>3. Peru</td>
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<td>4. China</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Canada</td>
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