

The Earth and the Graticule

Chapter 1: The Earth and the Graticule · Topic 1

Key Concept

Latitude lines run horizontally around Earth, measuring distance north or south of the equator, from 0° to 90° .

Longitude lines run vertically from pole to pole, measuring distance east or west of the Prime Meridian, from 0° to 180° .

Together, latitude and longitude lines form a grid called the graticule, allowing us to identify any location using coordinates.

The graticule is essential for navigation, mapping, and precisely describing locations anywhere on Earth's surface.

Quick Revision Notes

- Graticule: network of latitude, longitude lines.
- Latitude: horizontal, measures N/S of equator.
- Range: 0° to 90° .
- Longitude: vertical, pole to pole.
- Measures E/W of Prime Meridian, 0° to 180° .
- Together they form a grid (graticule).
- This identifies locations via coordinates.
- It's essential for navigation, mapping.

Practice Questions

- 1 Draw latitude and longitude lines on a simple globe sketch.
- 2 Find the equator and Prime Meridian on a map.
- 3 Discuss why the graticule is useful for navigation.
- 4 Identify a location using latitude and longitude if possible.
- 5 Discuss the range of latitude and longitude values.
- 6 Explain the graticule in your own words.