

therefore the longitude of a place cannot be more than 180 degrees east or west.

150. How is it marked?

A. Generally in numbers on the top and bottom of the map, at the end of the meridians.

On map of the world, No. 1, the longitude is marked on the Equator, in consequence of a want of room at the ends of the lines; but on maps Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, &c., it is marked at the top and bottom of the maps.

151. How can you distinguish between east and west longitude?

A. If the numbers increase towards the right hand, it is east longitude; but if they increase towards the left hand, it is west longitude.

152. Are the degrees of longitude of the same length as those of latitude?

A. On the Equator they are very nearly of the same length as those of latitude, but no where else.

153. How do they differ from those of latitude?

A. They constantly decrease as we go either north or south from the equator towards the poles, where the meridians all meet, and the longitude ceases.

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154. What is the meaning of the word longitude?

A. It signifies length. It was used for this purpose because formerly the earth was supposed to be much longer from East to West than from North to South.

155. On some of the maps the longitude is marked on the top from Greenwich, and on the bottom from Washington, the difference being 77 degrees. The same lines serve to express the longitude of both places, and are numbered accordingly.

156. How do nations generally reckon longitude?

A. From the capital of their own country.

157. We reckon ours from the city of Washington; the English from Greenwich; the French from Paris; and the Spaniards from Madrid.

158. On the Equator a degree of longitude is 69½ miles in length; at 42 degrees of latitude it is only three-fourths of that extent; at 60 degrees it is one-half; at 75 degrees one quarter; and at the poles it is nothing.

159. Places on the Equator have no latitude, and those on the first meridian no longitude; therefore, at the point where the first meridian crosses the Equator, there is neither latitude nor longitude.