



The **cardinal** directions are **north, south, east, and west**.

The **intermediate** directions are **northeast, southeast, southwest, and northwest**.

We show directions on a **compass rose** like the one at left. You should be able to fill in the blanks on a compass rose.

The symbols on a map are explained in the **key** or **legend**.

The map **scale** tells you how many miles in real life are shown in one inch on the map.

Latitudes are also called **parallels** (they never meet—they stay parallel to each other). The center latitude is called the **equator**, and the equator divides the earth into northern and southern hemispheres. (A **hemisphere** is $\frac{1}{2}$ of the earth.) The **Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn** are also latitudes. The first is 23° north of the equator and the second is 23° south of the equator. The climate between these two latitudes is tropical. Because latitudes go all the way to 90° , 23 is a fairly low number, so we say it is hottest in the *low latitudes*. Latitudes tell us how much we are either north or south of the equator, and you can make some estimates about climate based on how low or high the latitude is (between 0° and 23° = tropical, 23° to 60° = moderate, 60° to 90° will be cold—no matter which hemisphere you're in.)

Longitudes are also called **meridians**. They go between the north and south poles. The **prime meridian** and the **international dateline** divide the earth into eastern and western hemispheres. All longitudes

meet at the **north pole** (90°N , 0°) and **south pole** (90°S , 0°).

To locate any spot on earth, all we need is a latitude and a longitude. The combination of latitude and longitude gives us only one possible intersection. Latitude and longitude are written in parenthesis, with latitude always written first. For example, Georgetown, TX can be found at approximately (30°N , 97°W). Find the latitude, look for the spot where it crosses the longitude.