Class 6 Social Science

Chapter 1: Locating Places on the Earth

Competency-Based Questions with Answers

Focus: Application • Reasoning • Map Skills • Coordinates • Real-Life Situations

1. A student is given the coordinates 28° N, 77° E. What do these coordinates help the student identify?

Answer: They help identify the exact location of a place on Earth. 28° N gives the latitude and 77° E gives the longitude.

2. Riya wants to travel from her school to a library located to the east. Which map element should she use first and why?

Answer: She should use the direction indicator or compass. It helps her identify east and determine the direction in which she needs to travel.

3. Why are symbols important on maps?

Answer: Symbols make maps easy to read and understand. They represent features such as roads, railways, rivers and buildings without lengthy descriptions.

4. Place A is closer to the Equator than Place B. What can you infer about their latitudes?

Answer: Place A has a lower latitude than Place B because a place closer to the Equator has a latitude closer to 0°.

5. Imagine that all lines of latitude and longitude disappeared from maps. What difficulty would people face?

Answer: It would become much harder to locate places accurately because latitude and longitude provide a coordinate system for identifying positions.

6. Why does the Equator have a latitude of 0°?

Answer: The Equator divides Earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres and is the reference line from which latitude is measured.

7. A place is at 20° N and another at 20° S. Are they located in the same part of Earth?

Answer: No. They are in different hemispheres. The first is north of the Equator and the second is south of it.

8. Why is the Prime Meridian important for locating places?

Answer: It is the reference line for measuring longitude east and west and is assigned 0° longitude.

9. A traveller moves from 30° E longitude to 50° E longitude. Has the traveller moved east or west?

Answer: The traveller has moved eastward because the longitude has increased from 30° E to 50° E.

10. Two cities have nearly the same latitude but different longitudes. What does this tell you?

Answer: They are at approximately the same north–south position but different east–west positions.

Case-Based Questions

Case Study 1: Finding a School

A school map shows: the playground is north of the school, the library is east, the laboratory is south, and the office is west.

Q1. If Aman walks from the school to the library, in which direction will he move?

Answer: East.

Q2. In which direction is the laboratory from the school?

Answer: South.

Q3. Which instrument can help Aman determine directions?

Answer: A compass.

Case Study 2: Understanding Coordinates

A teacher gives three locations: A: 10° N, 20° E; B: 10° N, 40° E; C: 20° N, 20° E.

Q1. Which two places have the same latitude?

Answer: A and B, both at 10° N.

Q2. Which two places have the same longitude?

Answer: A and C, both at 20° E.

Q3. What does having the same longitude mean?

Answer: They lie on the same meridian of longitude.

Case Study 3: Time and Longitude

Different places can have different local times because Earth rotates from west to east and different longitudes face the Sun at different times.

Q1. Why do different places experience different local times?

Answer: Because different longitudes face the Sun at different times as Earth rotates.

Q2. What happens to local time as we move eastward?

Answer: Local time generally becomes later.

Q3. Why do countries use standard time?

Answer: To provide a common time for a country or region, making travel, communication and administration easier.

Higher-Order Thinking Questions

11. A map has a scale of 1 cm = 10 km. Two towns are 5 cm apart. What is their actual distance?

Answer: 50 km.

12. A friend says, “Latitude and longitude are the same because both are imaginary lines.” Do you agree?

Answer: No. Latitudes run east–west and measure north/south position from the Equator. Longitudes run from pole to pole and measure east/west position from the Prime Meridian.

13. Why can a globe sometimes provide a better representation of Earth than a flat map?

Answer: A globe is a three-dimensional model of Earth and represents its overall shape and relative positions more naturally. Flat maps can distort some features.

14. If you know only the latitude of a place, can you identify its exact location?

Answer: No. Latitude gives north–south position; longitude is also needed for a more precise location.

15. Why is a map more useful when it includes a scale?

Answer: A scale helps us calculate or estimate actual distances between places.

Assertion–Reason Questions

16. Assertion: Latitude and longitude together help us locate places accurately. Reason: They form a coordinate system on Earth's surface.

Answer: Both are correct, and the Reason correctly explains the Assertion.

17. Assertion: The Equator is the most important line of longitude. Reason: It divides Earth into Northern and Southern Hemispheres.

Answer: The Assertion is incorrect, but the Reason is correct. The Equator is a line of latitude.

18. Assertion: Places at different longitudes can have different local times. Reason: Earth rotates on its axis.

Answer: Both are correct, and the Reason correctly explains the Assertion.

Real-Life Application Questions

19. You are planning a trip using a paper map, but it has no north arrow. What problem might you face?

Answer: It may be difficult to determine directions such as north, south, east and west.

20. Your GPS shows the coordinates of a location. What two geographical ideas are being used?

Answer: Latitude and longitude.

21. Your class is going on a field trip and you need to calculate distance between two locations on a map. Which feature will you use?

Answer: The scale of the map.

22. Why would a pilot or ship captain need accurate information about location and direction?

Answer: To navigate safely, follow the correct route and reach the destination.

Challenge Questions

23. A place is at 25° N, 80° E. Another is at 25° N, 70° E. Which statement is correct? A. Same longitude B. Same latitude C. Both south of Equator D. Both west of Prime Meridian

Answer: B. Both places have the same latitude because both are at 25° N.

24. Why is the name “Delhi” alone not enough for someone unfamiliar with the place to locate it accurately?

Answer: A place name alone does not give its exact geographical position. Coordinates, map location, directions or other reference information help locate it accurately.

Key Competencies Developed

Competency	Question Numbers
Map Reading	2, 3, 19
Spatial Thinking	4, 7, 9, 10
Application of Coordinates	1, 5, 6, 8, 14, 20
Reasoning	12, 13, 17
Numerical Application	11, 21
Time & Geography	Case Study 3, 18
Real-Life Application	19–22
Higher-Order Thinking	13, 14, 23, 24