

Exploring Our World: Continents and Oceans

Learning objective: To identify, name, and understand the geographical distribution of the world's seven continents and five oceans.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of global geography. Read the front, think of the answer, then check the back. For the 'Greater Depth' questions, write your answers in your exercise book using full, descriptive sentences.

Which is the largest continent by both land area and population? Asia	Name the ocean that lies between Africa and the Americas. The Atlantic Ocean
Which continent is located entirely in the Southern Hemisphere and is known for its unique marsupial wildlife? Australia	What is the name of the smallest ocean on Earth, located around the North Pole? The Arctic Ocean
Which continent contains the Sahara Desert and the Nile River? Africa	Compare the climate of Antarctica with that of South America. Why are they so different? Antarctica is a polar desert with extreme cold and ice coverage, whereas South America has diverse climates including tropical rainforests and mountain ranges, due to their different latitudes and proximity to the Equator.
Explain why the Pacific Ocean is considered significant in terms of global trade and tectonic activity. It is the largest and deepest ocean, serving as a primary maritime trade route, and it is home to the 'Ring of Fire' where most of the world's volcanic and earthquake activity occurs.	Justify why Europe and Asia are sometimes referred to collectively as 'Eurasia'. They are physically connected as one continuous landmass, separated only by historical and cultural boundaries like the Ural Mountains, rather than by oceans or seas.
What might happen to coastal geography if global temperatures continue to rise and polar ice caps melt? Sea levels would rise, potentially submerging low-lying coastal regions and changing the shapes of continents by altering their coastlines.	Describe the location of the Southern Ocean in relation to the other four oceans. It encircles the continent of Antarctica and connects the southern parts of the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans.
If you were travelling by boat from the UK to Japan, which oceans would you cross or border if you took a route via the Suez Canal? You would border the Atlantic Ocean, the Indian Ocean, and the Pacific Ocean.	Critically evaluate: Why is the Equator an important geographical marker for scientists studying continents? It divides the Earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, acting as a baseline for latitude, which helps determine the climate patterns and seasonal variations experienced by each continent.