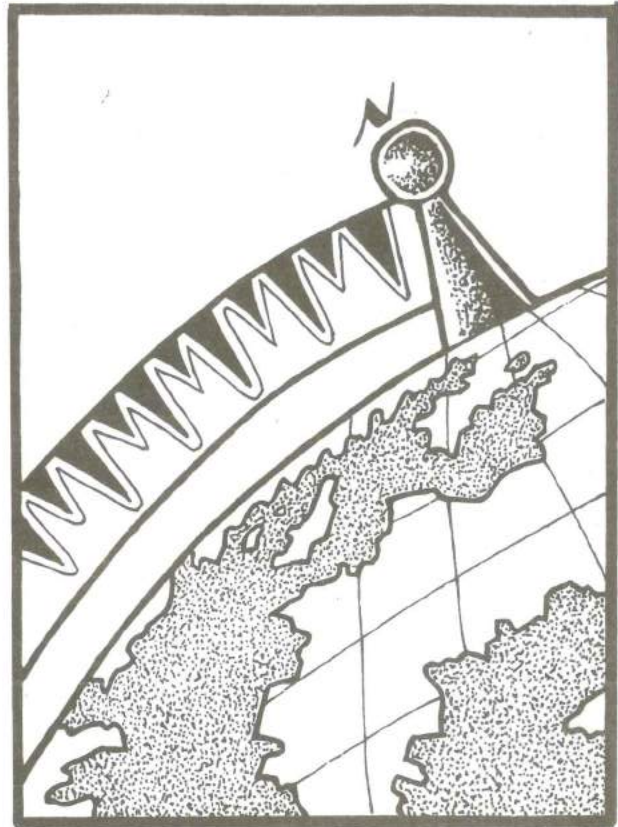


Absolute Location in Canada

When studying a country, it is important to know its location within the world. Knowing the exact location is referred to as the *absolute location*. One common way of telling the absolute location is to give the coordinates of latitude and longitude for the area.

Lines of *latitude* are called parallels and run east and west on the map. They tell us the distance of a place either north or south of the *equator*. For example, Victoria, British Columbia, is located 48 degrees north of the equator. This is written 48°N . To be even more specific, degrees are broken down into smaller units called minutes. There are 60 minutes in each degree. The more specific location for Victoria is 48 degrees and 25 minutes north. This is written $48^{\circ}25' \text{N}$.

Lines of *longitude* are called meridians and run north and south on the map. They measure the distance east or west of the prime meridian which is located in Greenwich, England. Again, longitude is measured in degrees, each of which contains 60 minutes. Victoria is located at $123^{\circ} 22' \text{W}$ longitude.



Solve the following problems using absolute location.

- Use an atlas or map to identify the cities whose absolute locations are given below.

Absolute Location		Name of City
Latitude	Longitude	
A. $43^{\circ}42' \text{N}$	$79^{\circ}25' \text{W}$	_____
B. $45^{\circ}30' \text{N}$	$73^{\circ}36' \text{W}$	_____
C. $49^{\circ}13' \text{N}$	$123^{\circ}6' \text{W}$	_____

2. Using an atlas or reference book, write the absolute locations for the following cities. Give both latitude and longitude in degrees.

Name of City	Absolute Location	
	Latitude	Longitude
A. Whitehorse, Yukon	_____	_____
B. Regina, Saskatchewan	_____	_____
C. Halifax, Nova Scotia	_____	_____
D. St. John's, Newfoundland	_____	_____
E. Ottawa, Ontario	_____	_____

3. Some places that you are trying to locate may cover a large area. When this happens, most atlases or reference books will choose one set of coordinates that are located within the area as the absolute location. For example, Lake Huron could be identified as being located at 45°N and 82°30'W, because these lines run through the lake. Identify the following natural features of Canada by the lines of latitude and longitude that run through them.

Absolute Location		Natural Features
Latitude	Longitude	
A. 58°N	86°W	_____
B. 61°30'N	114°20'W	_____
C. 68°50'N	70°W	_____
D. 48°45'N	68°30'W	_____
E. 52°45'N	98°W	_____

4. Write an absolute location for each of the following natural features or political regions. Give both latitude and longitude in degrees.

Feature or Region	Absolute Location	
	Latitude	Longitude
A. Lake Winnipegosis	_____	_____
B. Ottawa River	_____	_____
C. Nova Scotia	_____	_____
D. Manitoba	_____	_____
E. Ellesmere Island	_____	_____
F. James Bay	_____	_____
G. Athabasca River	_____	_____