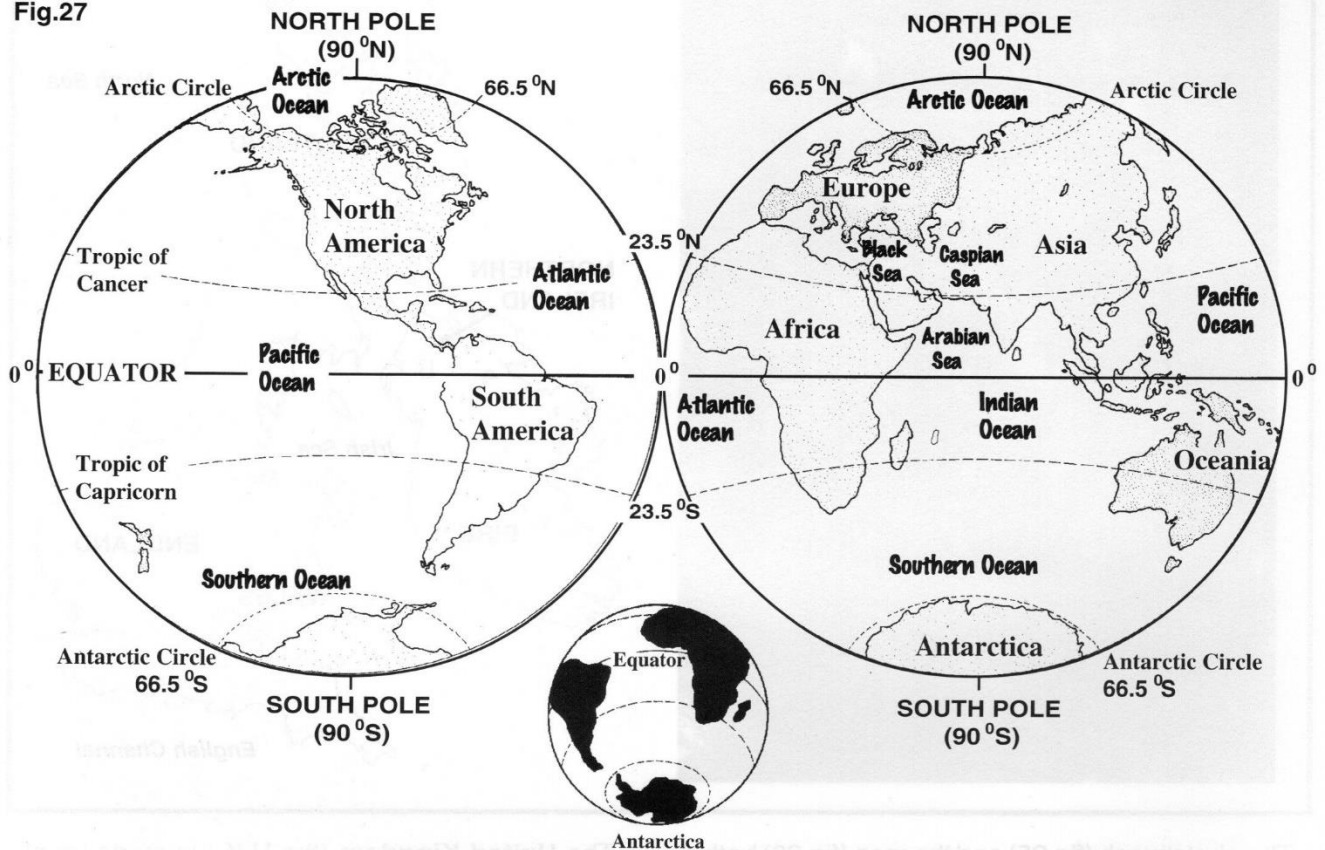


EARTH FROM SPACE

Fig.27



Any view of the Earth from space shows that we live on a small, round planet mostly covered in water (see figure 27).

The Earth has seven major **continents** - large land areas with nearby islands - surrounded or nearly surrounded by water. The continents include Asia, Africa, Europe, North America, South America, Antarctica and Oceania. The seven continents together cover about 29% of the surface of the Earth. **Asia** is the largest continent, covering almost one-third of the land on Earth. **Antarctica** is a frozen continent; a land mass covered by thick ice around the South Pole. It contains about 70% of all the world's fresh water in the form of ice.

The rest of our planet is covered by 6 major oceans and many seas. Seas are smaller areas of water,

partly surrounded by land. The largest ocean is the **Pacific** and the largest sea areas are the **Coral Sea** (part of the Pacific Ocean near Australia), the **Mediterranean** and the **Arabian Seas** (see fig.28).

The **Arctic Ocean** is almost completely frozen over all year round. Seas such as the **Caspian** and **Black Seas** are **land-locked** - surrounded by land.

Information and photographs are collected from satellites orbiting the Earth. New maps, charts of the oceans and seas, and exact distances and heights are all now calculated and checked from satellite information.

There are now said to be two human-made features on the Earth that can be seen from space - the **Great Wall** of China and the new **Kansai International Airport** at Kobe, Japan.

WORLD RECORDS

Fig.28

The Highest.....

Mountain on Earth is Mauna Kea, Hawaii at 10,023 metres measured from the sea floor.

Mountain on land is Mount Everest, Nepal at 8,843 metres measured above sea level.

Waterfall is Angel falls, Venezuela (979 metres high).

The Largest.....

Ocean is the Pacific Ocean (165,384,000 sq.km)

Sea is the Coral Sea (4,790,000 sq.km)

Continent is Asia (44,391,200 sq.km)

Island is Greenland (2,175,000 sq.km)

Desert is the Sahara Desert (8,400,000 sq.km)

Lake is Lake Superior (US - 82,414, sq.km)

Inland Sea is the Caspian Sea (C.I.S. - 372,000 sq.km)



The Longest.....

River is the River Nile, Egypt (6,670 km)

Mountain Range is the Andes (South America - 7,240 km)

The Deepest.....

Lake is Lake Baikal (Russia - 1,940 metres)

Ocean is the Mariana Trench (Pacific - 11,033 m)

There are now 180 **countries** (nations or states) and 56 **territories** (areas belonging to countries) on planet Earth. The largest countries are **Russia** (17 million sq.km) and **Canada** (9.976 million sq.km). The smallest countries are the **Vatican City** Rome (0.4 sq.km) and **Monaco**, S.France (2 sq.km).

All countries have their own **borders** or frontiers- be they drawn along rivers, through high mountains or decided by agreement with neighbouring countries along imaginary lines. **China** has 13 frontiers with neighbouring countries.

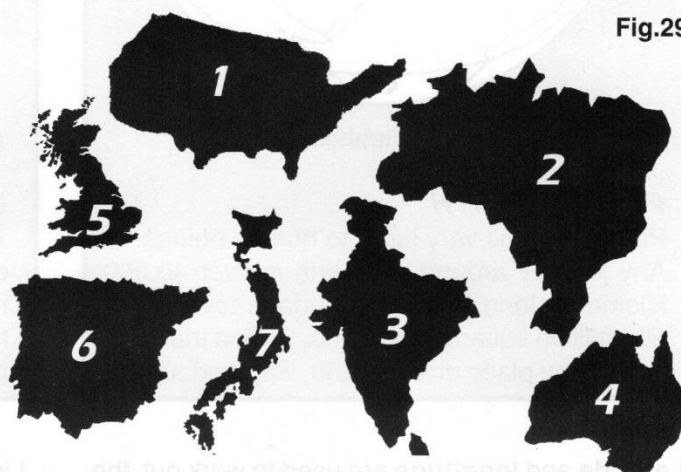


Fig.29

Earth from Space

Tasks

- 1 On a map of the World - (see fig.27)
 - (i) Mark and name the following important lines - **Equator, Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circles.**
 - (ii) Name the 7 continents
 - (iii) Colour and name the 6 major oceans
 - (iv) Name the following seas - **Arabian, Black, Mediterranean, Caspian, Coral.**
- 2 Use the information given and an Atlas to find out which continent :
 - (i) has the longest river
 - (ii) contains the Andes mountains
 - (iii) has the least number of countries
 - (iv) contains the Caspian Sea
 - (v) has an almost empty centre
 - (vi) you live in.
- 3 In your own words give the meaning of : **Continent, Sea, Country, border.**
- 4 Using an atlas map of the world :
 - (i) name the countries (1 to 6) on figure 29.
 - (ii) describe the border between - **France & Spain, Egypt and Libya, Germany & France.**
- 5 Neatly copy the summary below.

Summary

Asia is the largest of the 7 continents (large land areas). The **Pacific Ocean** is the largest of the 6 major oceans. The **Coral Sea** is the largest sea (smaller areas of water partly surrounded by land). The continents are divided by borders into 180 countries (states). **Russia** is the largest country (by area).

The Earth - a small round, rocky planet mostly covered in water.

1. **Shade** in the globe map - **blue** for sea areas **light green** or **yellow** for land areas.



answer the following questions.

You may need to use an Atlas to help you.

2. **Shade** the British Isles in red.
3. Fill in the **blanks** in this paragraph.

The continents of **E**_____, **A**_____, **A**_____ and **N**_____ **A**_____ have been named on the globe map above. The continents are large land areas of the world. On the globe all of **E**_____ and **A**_____ can be seen. Only the northern parts of **A**_____ and **N**_____ **A**_____ can be seen. Most of the continents have many different cou_____.

4. Answer the following questions -

a. What is the difference between a **sea** and an **ocean** ? _____

b. In the spaces below write the names of the **seas** and **oceans** which have numbers on the globe map above.

① _____ ② _____ ③ _____

DIFFERENT VIEWS OF PLANET EARTH

Use an Atlas to help you answer the questions below.

1. Look at Globe 1.

Write the names of the continents on Globe 1 in the correct places.

Choose from: **Europe** **Asia** **Africa**.

Name the **Atlantic Ocean** and the **Indian Ocean** on Globe 1.

Shade in the oceans and seas lightly in **blue**.

2. Look at Globe 2.

China and India belong to this **continent**.

Write its name on Globe 2 in the correct place.

Write the names of the **Indian Ocean** and the **Pacific Ocean** on Globe 2.

Shade in the oceans and seas lightly in **blue**.

3. Look at Globe 3.

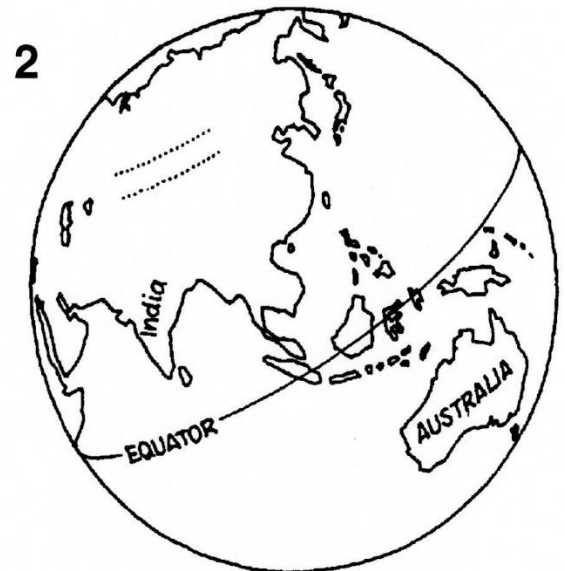
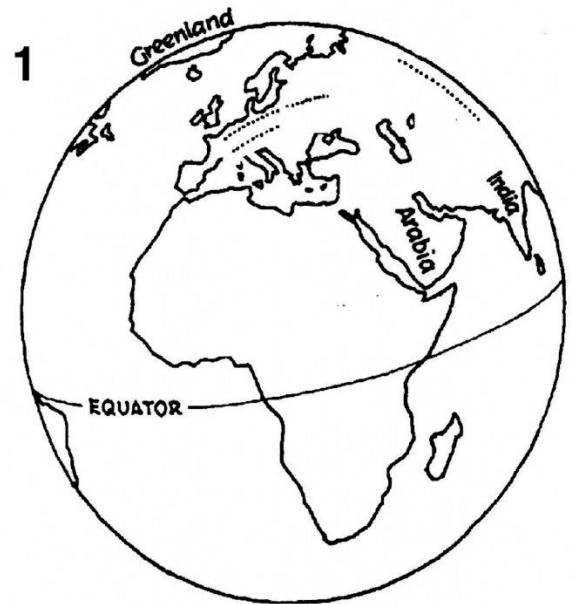
Write the names of the two main continents shown on Globe 3 in the correct places.

Write the names of the **Atlantic Ocean** and the **Pacific Ocean** on Globe 3.

Shade in the oceans and seas lightly in **blue**.

4. Which **continents** are not shown on Globes 1 to 3 ?

5. Which major **oceans** are not shown on Globes 1 to 3 ?



Can you spot which countries are shown by their outlines below ?

Write the names of the countries in each of the following boxes. Use an atlas if you need to !



VERY EASY



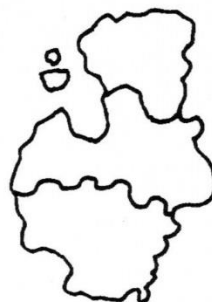
EASY

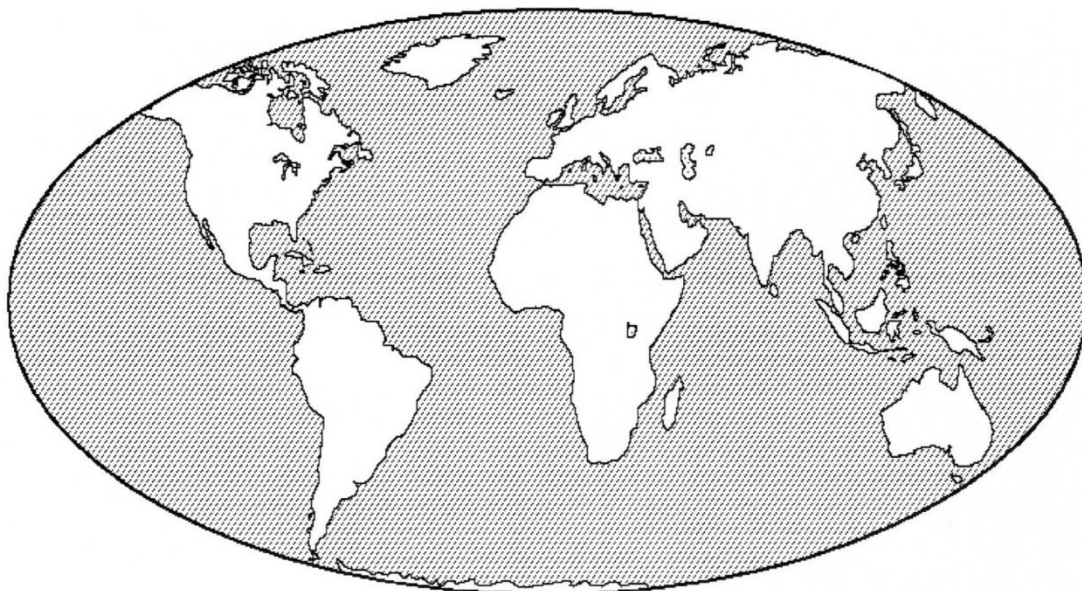


HARD



VERY DIFFICULT





For the following questions you will need an atlas map of the world.

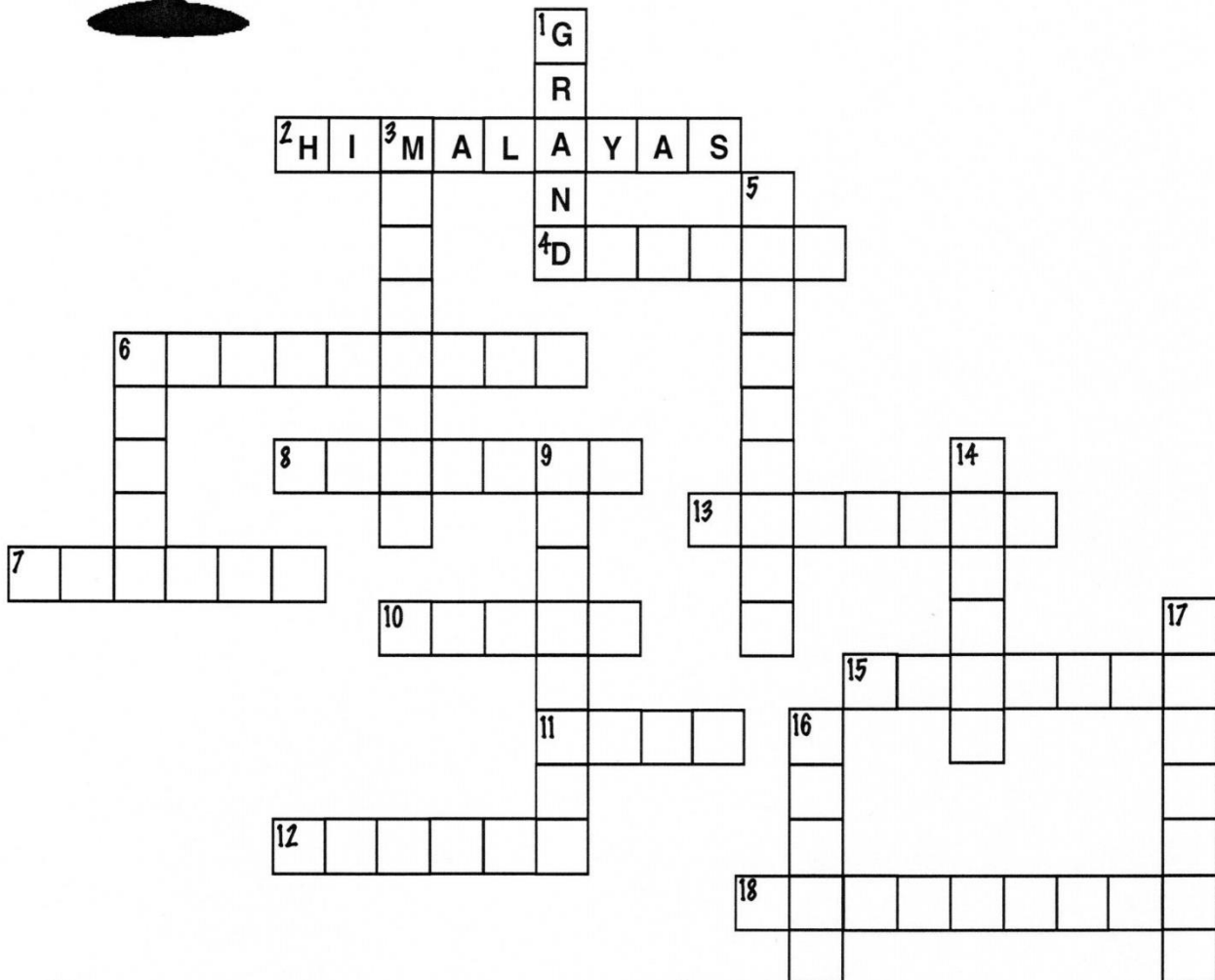
1. Which **ocean** lies between Oceania and South America ? _____
2. Which **mountains** lie along the whole length of South America ? _____
3. Which major **river** flows north through Africa to enter the Mediterranean Sea ? _____
4. Through which large **desert** does the Tropic of Cancer pass ? _____
5. Which **ocean** would you cross if you travelled from Eire to New York ? _____
6. Which **ocean** lies entirely in the northern hemisphere ? _____
7. On which **oceans** does the USA have coasts ? _____
8. Which two **continents** does the South Atlantic Ocean separate ? _____
9. Which **mountain range** lies to the north of Italy ? _____
10. Which island **country** - made up of two large islands and some smaller ones, lies to the south-east of Australia ? _____
11. Does the **Equator** pass through Venezuela ? _____
12. On which **continent** is Burkina Faso ? _____
13. Which **ocean** would you cross to travel from Ghana to Argentina ? _____
14. What is the **capital city** of Egypt ? _____
15. Is Uruguay **land-locked** (has no coastline) ? _____
16. Which major **canal** joins the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea ? _____
17. Which large African **country** is shaped like a butterfly ? _____
18. Name a **city** in Africa which stands on the Greenwich Meridian ? _____
19. Does the **Antarctic Circle** cross the continent of Antarctica ? _____
20. Name a **river** in Russia that flows into the Caspian Sea. _____

Now write these names on the above globe map of the world !



1. What you are about to do is find out (**investigate**) the names of the world's largest, biggest, tallest, smallest.....features !

To do this you must first solve the crossword clues below. You will need the textbook and an atlas. Where else may you find information to help you solve the crossword clues below ?



Down

1. The biggest **canyon** on Earth.
3. The highest **mountain** on the whole planet.
5. The world's largest **island**.
6. Longest **mountain range** on Earth.
9. Largest **lake** in the world.
14. The world's **deepest lake**.
16. More **people** live in this country than in any other.
17. The world's **smallest country**.

Across

2. The highest **mountains** on Earth.
4. The **Sahara** is the largest of these.
6. The world's largest **active volcano**.
7. **Largest country** on the planet (in area).
8. The **highest place** on Earth.
10. The highest **waterfall** on the planet.
11. The world's **oldest country**.
12. **Service Steamboat** is the highest of these.
13. This is the largest **inland sea**.
15. The **lowest land** below sea level on Earth.
18. Country made of the **most islands** on the planet.

Next

Answer the following questions on the back of this sheet.....

2. Sort out the answers to the crossword clues above into their correct **continents**. Make lists.
3. Find out why a book of maps is called an **Atlas**.
4. Find out what the correct name for the **shape** of Planet Earth is (it is **not** a sphere !).

