

Key Vocabulary	
<b>biomes</b>	large geographical area which is home to certain plants and animals, specially adapted to suit the environment.
<b>climate</b>	The usual or average <b>weather</b> conditions over a long period of time.
<b>continent</b>	A large landmass made up of many <b>countries</b> .
<b>country</b>	An area that is controlled by its own government.
<b>equator</b>	An imaginary line around the globe at <b>latitude</b> 0° north dividing the earth into northern and southern hemispheres.
<b>flora/fauna</b>	Plant and animal life.
<b>latitude</b>	Imaginary parallel lines which circle the globe from east to west.
<b>longitude</b>	Imaginary lines which run north to south across the globe from pole to pole.
<b>weather</b>	The specific atmospheric conditions on a given day including temperature and rainfall.

The Americas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Americas are two separate continents consisting of North America and South America.</li> <li>• North America contains 23 different countries.</li> <li>• The Americas cover a huge area of the globe, extending over several lines of latitude and longitude.</li> <li>• The characteristics of different countries and regions vary significantly, including weather, land use and flora and fauna.</li> </ul>



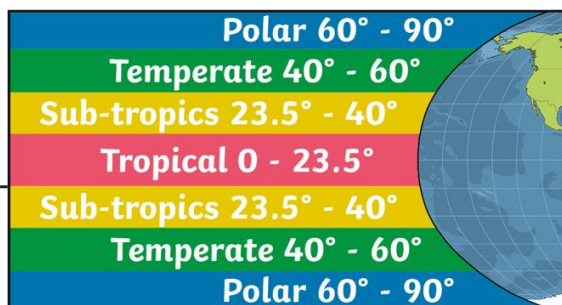
How Can You Compare Different Places?	
<p><b>Physical Geography</b></p> <p>The natural features of a place or environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• oceans and coastlines</li> <li>• rivers and lakes</li> <li>• mountains and volcanoes</li> <li>• flora and fauna</li> <li>• land-form</li> </ul>	<p><b>Human Geography</b></p> <p>Features of an environment that have been shaped by people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• country/region boundaries</li> <li>• buildings, roads and land use</li> <li>• changes to river courses</li> <li>• languages/signs</li> <li>• religion, government, art and music</li> </ul>

### Climate Groups

The Köppen System is a climate classification system. It is split into five main groups which each consist of a range of climate types:

- Temperate - hot dry summers, and cooler wetter winters, Mediterranean e.g. United Kingdom
- Continental - long, cold winters and short, hot summers, inland areas e.g parts of Turkey
- Polar - long periods of extreme cold, tundra, ice cap e.g. Antarctica
- Tropical - hot and humid, wet, rainforest e.g. Brazil
- Dry - arid, desert e.g. Saudi Arabia

The four main **climate** zones, determined by **latitude**.



### The New Seven Wonders of the World

Christ the Redeemer, Brazil	Machu Picchu, Peru	Chichen Itza, Mexico	The Colosseum, Italy	Taj Mahal, India	The Great Wall of China	Petra, Jordan

### Some of the Natural Wonders of the Americas

Grand Canyon, Arizona	Niagara Falls, Ontario/New York	Angel Falls, Venezuela	Yosemite Valley, California	Kilauea, Hawaii	Great Blue Hole, Belize	Amazon Rainforest, Brazil

Great Blue Hole - Belize by Larry Malvin is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/)