

Lesson 2

Where is The Bahamas? Part B

Lines of longitude and latitude

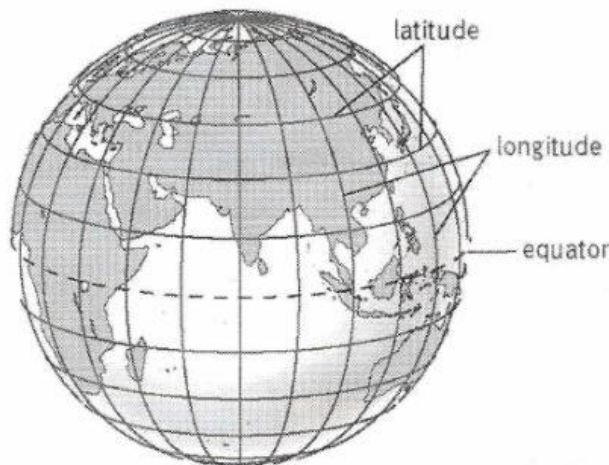
Where is The Bahamas? The Bahamas is a group of islands east of North America. It is an **archipelago**, groups of islands near each other. Therefore, The Bahamas is a group of 700 islands and cays. Our country lies between Florida and Cuba. Another way we can describe the position of The Bahamas is to use the lines of **latitude** and **longitude**.

Lines of Latitude: These are imaginary lines drawn around the Earth, parallel to the equator. The lines are numbered in degrees north or south of the equator. Latitude $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ North is called the **Tropic of Cancer**. This line passes through **Long Island** and **Exuma Cays**. The line of latitude that cuts the Earth in two halves is the **equator**, and it is 0° .

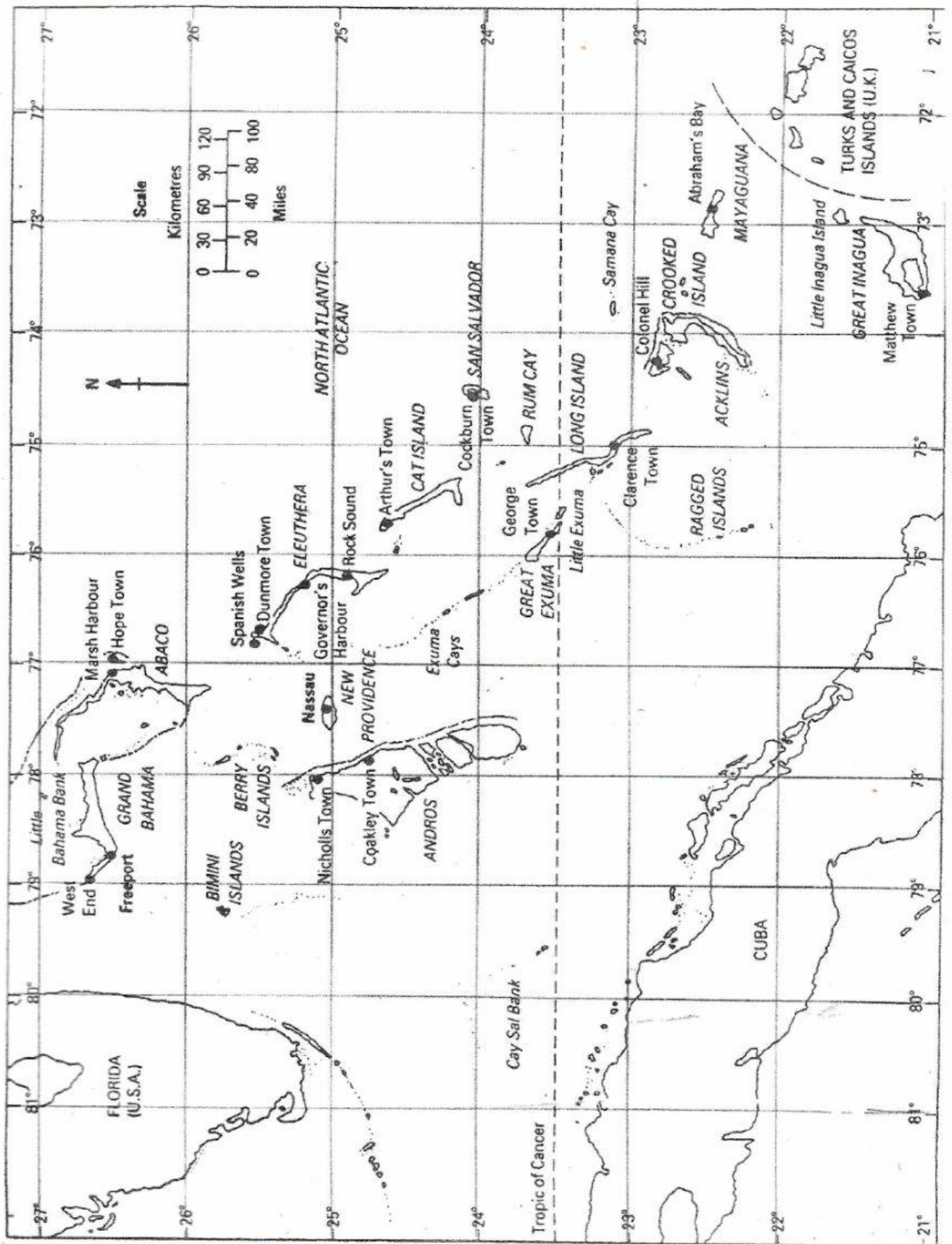
The line of longitude: These are imaginary lines that join the North Pole to the South Pole. They are numbered in degrees to the west or east of the longitude 0° line that runs through **England**. The line of longitude that cuts the Earth in two halves is the **Prime Meridian** it is 0° .

The islands of The Bahamas are positioned:

- between latitude 20° North and latitude 28° North
- between longitudes 72° West and 80° West.



Jerry Malone



Date: _____

Directions: Use the map of The Bahamas to help answer the following questions.

1. The line of latitude that passes through Andros and San Salvador is _____ (1)
2. The Tropic of Cancer passes through _____ and _____ (2)
3. Acklins and Crooked Island lie between which two lines of latitude _____ and _____ (2)
4. Longitude 76° west passes through _____. (1)
5. Nassau is near to longitude _____. (1)

Directions: Use the notes to answer the following questions.

6. Which line of longitude cuts the Earth in two halves from north to south? [1]

7. What is the name for the imaginary lines that run from east to west? [1]

8. What is the name for the imaginary lines that run north and south? [1]
