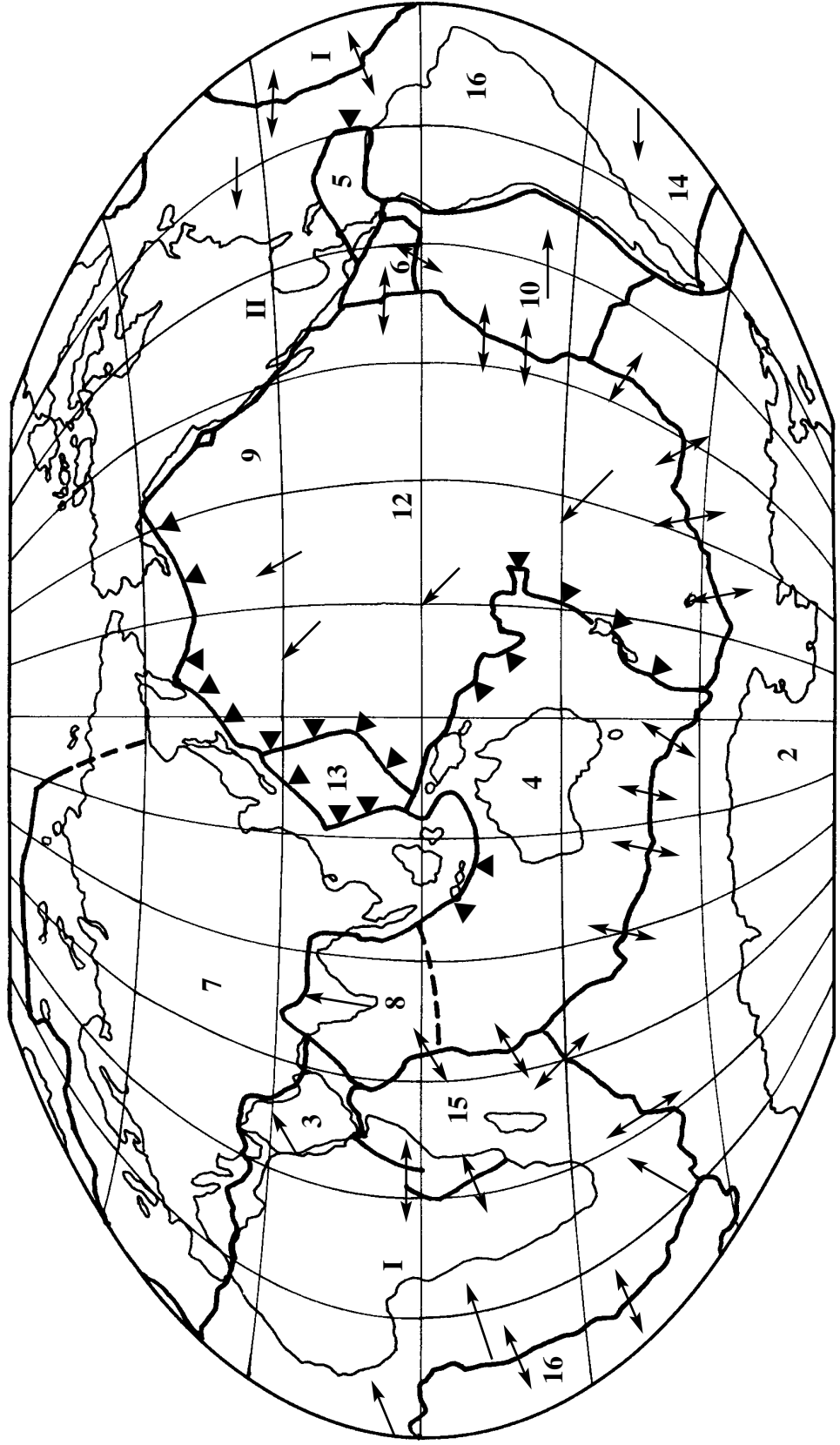


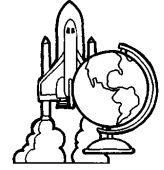


Plate Tectonics (cont.)

Earth's Plates Puzzle

To the Teacher: Cut along the dark lines to make puzzle pieces of this map. Provide a set of puzzle pieces for each group of students to use. If the map is copied on cardstock, the puzzle pieces will be more durable.

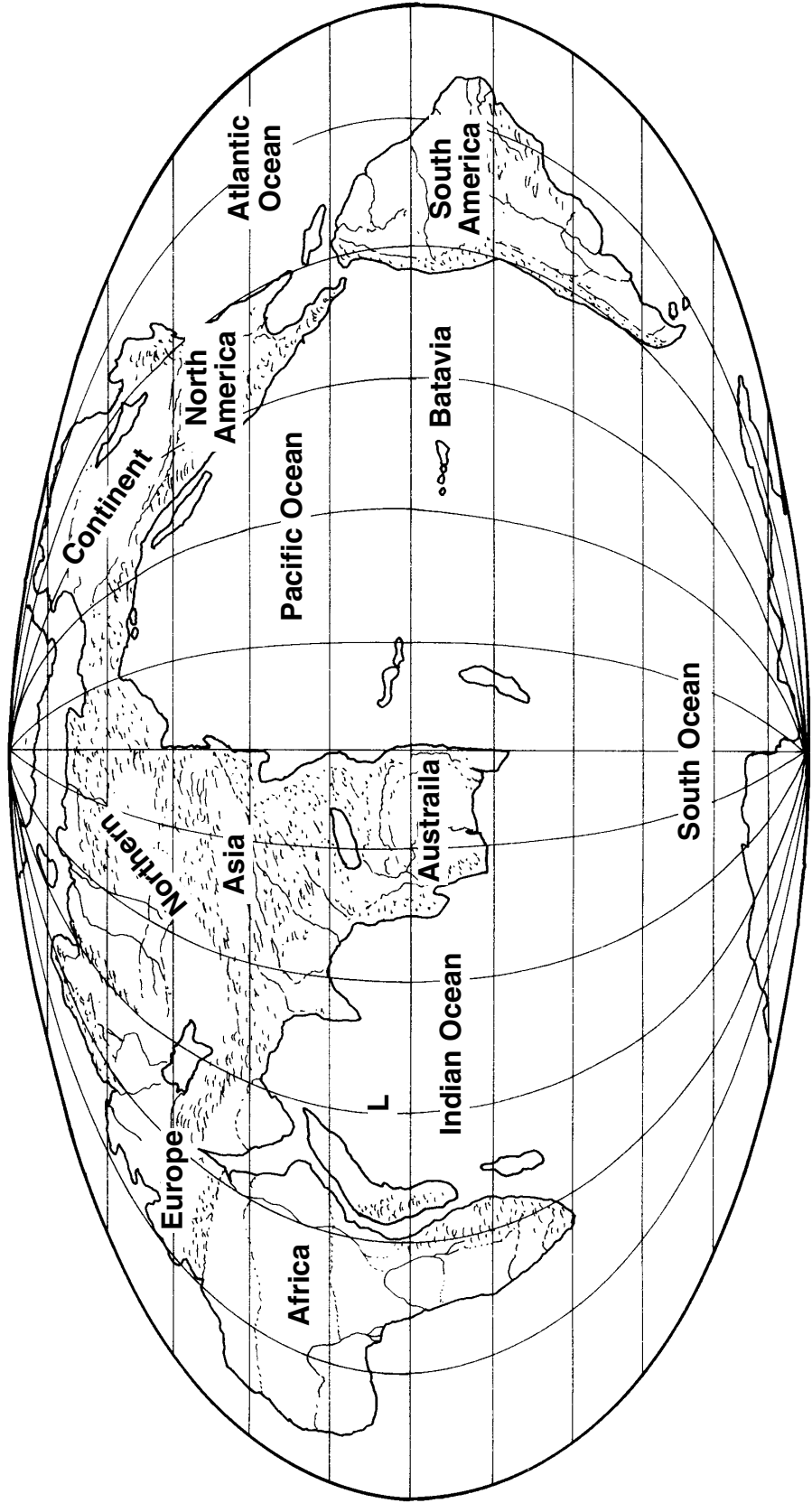




Off to the Future (cont.)

World Map 50 Million Years from Now

Scientists have made predictions of what the Earth's surface will look like 50 million years from now based upon the motion of the crustal plates. Continents will be relocated, and some will be missing pieces. Compare it to the present-day world map to find changes.





Off to the Future (cont.)

California's Movin'!

To the Student: This map shows California and the Baja California Peninsula as they appear today. Notice the location of the San Andreas Fault, a long fracture in the Earth's crust stretching from San Francisco southeast to the Gulf of California (between Baja California and Mexico). Land on the western side of this fault is on the Pacific Plate; that on the eastern side is on the North American Plate. The Pacific Plate is moving about two inches (5 cm) a year. Where pressure builds up between plates, earthquakes can occur. One of the worst was in San Francisco in 1906 when a major earthquake knocked down buildings and fires destroyed most of the city.

Cut along the fault line, beginning north of San Francisco and stopping south of Baja California. Gradually move the Pacific Plate northwest, away from the North American Plate, to see how scientists think this area will change over time. This section of land may become an island in 50 million years, with San Diego off the coast of Washington at about 45° north latitude.

