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**Figure 4.1** Global surface current system – a generalised representation. Cool currents are indicated by dashed arrows, warm currents by solid arrows. The chart is for average conditions for summer months in the Northern

Hemisphere; local differences occur in the winter. **Source:** Colling, A. *et al.* (2001). *Ocean Circulation*. Oxford: Butterworth-Heinemann in association with the Open University, © The Open University, with permission.



**Figure 4.2** Global rainfall chart. Data are the average daily precipitation rates (mm per day) for the monthly periods from 1979 to 2006 from the Global Precipitation Climatology Project; GPCP Version 2, Monthly Rainrate Climatology Images, for 'All Months'.

**Source:** http://precip.gsfc.nasa.gov/rain\_pages/global\_choice.html (Accessed September 2008). This site gives monthly and other charts. GPCP data were provided by NASA/GSFC, visualisation by D. Bolvin (SSAI and NASA/GSFC).





**Figure 5.2** Global wind patterns. (a) July, (b) January. The figure shows the prevailing winds and the average position of the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ, where the trade winds of the Northern Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere converge), as well as the positions of the main regions of high and low atmospheric pressure.

**Source:** Colling, A. *et al.* (2001). *Ocean Circulation*. Oxford: Butterworth-Heinemann in association with the Open University, based in part on data in Perry, A. H. and Walker, J. M. (1977). *The Ocean-atmosphere System*. London: Longman, with permission of the publisher.



Figure 6.1 World distribution of biomes.

Source: © New Scientist (2003). The Earth From Inside Out. With permission.



**Figure 7.1** Palaeocontinental maps showing the present-day continents in their previous positions. GR, Greenland; M, Madagascar; NOAM, North America and SOAM, South America. Reconstructions were provided by the PLATES Project, Institute for Geophysics, Jackson School of Geosciences University of Texas at Austin.

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Figure 7.1 (cont.)

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**Figure 9.2** Interference colour chart for common minerals. This shows the colour produced by path difference (nm) as a function of mineral thickness ( $\mu$ m) and birefringence. The standard thickness of petrographic thin sections is 30  $\mu$ m. Specific birefringence values are shown as black lines.