

MAPS



A **map** is a representation or a drawing of the earth's surface or a part of it drawn on a flat surface according to a scale. One map shows a small area and a few facts. Another map may contain as many facts as a big book. When many maps are put together we get an Atlas. Atlases are of various sizes, measurements drawn on different scales.

PHYSICAL MAPS

Maps showing natural features of the earth such as mountains, plateaus, plains, rivers, oceans etc. are called **physical or relief maps**.

POLITICAL MAPS

Maps showing cities, towns and villages, and different countries and states of the world with their boundaries are called **political maps**.

THEMATIC MAPS

Some maps focus on specific information; such as road maps, rainfall maps, maps showing distribution of forests, industries etc. are known as **thematic maps**.

There are three ***Components of Maps*** – distance, direction and symbol.

DISTANCE

Maps are drawings, which reduce the entire world or a part of it to fit on a sheet of paper. Or we can say maps are drawn to reduced scales. But this reduction is done very carefully so that the distance between the places is real. **Scale** is the ratio between the actual distance on the ground and the distance shown on the map. When large areas like continents or countries are to be shown on a paper, then we use a small scale.

For example 5 cm. on the map shows 500 km. of the ground. It is called a **small scale map**.

When a small area like your village or town is to be shown on paper, then we use a large scale that is 5 cm. on the map shows 500 meters only on the ground. It is called a **large scale map**.

Large scale maps give more information than small scale maps.

SKETCH

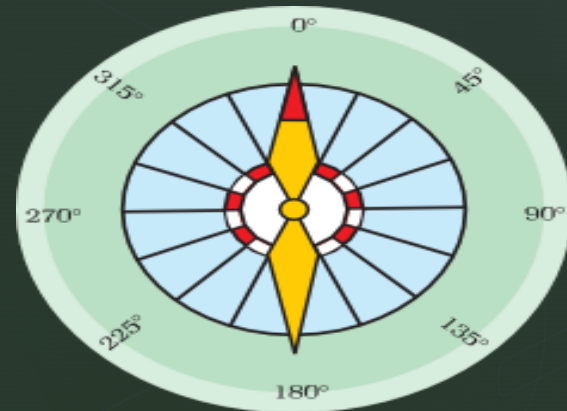
A **sketch** is a drawing mainly based on memory and spot observation and not to scale. Sometimes a rough drawing is required of an area to tell where a particular place is located with respect to other places. Your friend may make a rough drawing to show the way to his house. Such a rough drawing is drawn without scale, and is called a *sketch map*.

DIRECTION

Most maps contain an arrow marked with the letter 'N' at the upper right hand corner. This arrow shows the north direction. It is called the north line.

There are four major directions, North, South, East and West. They are called **cardinal points**. Other four intermediate directions are north-east (NE), south-east (SE), south-west (SW) and north-west (NW).

We can find out the direction of a place with the help of a **compass**. It is an instrument used to find out main directions. Its magnetic needle always points towards north-south direction .



S_YMBOLS

It is not possible to draw on a map the actual shape and size of different features such as buildings, roads, bridges, trees, railway lines or a well. So, they are shown by using certain letters, shades, colours, pictures and lines. These symbols give a lot of information in a limited space. With the use of these symbols, maps can be drawn easily and are simple to read. Maps have a universal language that can be understood by all. There is an international agreement regarding the use of these symbols. These are called **conventional symbols**.

P_LAN

A **plan** is a drawing of a small area on a large scale. A large-scale map gives a lot of information, but there are certain things which we may sometimes want to know for example the length and breadth of a room, which can't be shown in a map. At that time, we can refer to drawings drawn to scale called a *plan*.

MIND MAPPING

MAPS

Different Types

- *Physical Map (Ex: Maps showing mountains, Plateaus, Plains, Rivers, Oceans)
- *Political Map (Ex: Cities, Towns, Villages)
- *Thematic Map (Ex: Rainfall Map, Industries)

Components Of Maps

DISTANCE

DIRECTION

SYMBOL

- *Large Scale
- *Small Scale

- *Cardinal Points
- *Intermediate Points

- *Conventional Symbols

Thank
You

