

## ➔ Reading a Physical Map

# Let's Get Physical!

Have you ever wondered about the great variety of land forms and terrain around the world? Which regions are mountainous, which are flat, and which are encased in ice? How could such features be displayed visually?

This is a physical map of the world. It shows only natural features, such as oceans, rivers, mountains, and valleys. Physical features of an area often determine the number of people who live there and how they live. For instance, few people generally settle in arid areas, where

crops are difficult to grow. But many people can be found along coastlines, which have easy access to water and major transportation routes.

The map uses various colors to show *relief*—the height of the land above sea level (*see the relief key*).

To the right of the map are the definitions of some land and water features shown on the map. How many of these are familiar to you?

Study the map and definitions, then answer the questions.



## Terms to Know

### Water features

- Bay:** an inlet of a larger body of water, usually smaller than a gulf.
- Gulf:** a large body of salt water partly enclosed by land.
- Reef:** a chain of rocks or coral.
- Ocean:** the body of salt water covering more than 70 percent of Earth's surface.
- Sea:** Another word for ocean. Some so-called seas are actually salt lakes, but most are tracts of water within an ocean.

### Land features

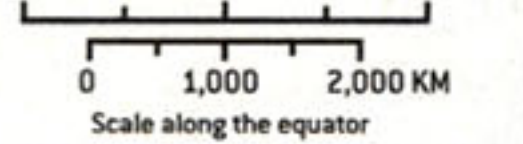
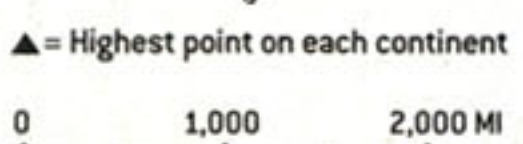
- Basin:** the land drained by a river and its tributaries.
- Cape:** a point of land that extends prominently into a lake or an ocean.
- Ice sheet:** a large expanse of snow and ice that covers a landmass.
- Pampas:** vast, treeless plains.
- Peninsula:** an area of land nearly surrounded by water.
- Plain:** a broad, nearly level area of land.
- Plateau:** a raised area of relatively flat land.

## Physical Map of the World

Robinson projection



▲ = Highest point on each continent



## Questions

1. Most valleys are shown in which color? \_\_\_\_\_
2. This map uses dark brown to show which land feature?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Africa's Niger River empties into which body of water?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Where in the U.S. will you find a large expanse of plains?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What physical feature is found on land forms at the northern and southern extremes of the map? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What is the world's highest mountain? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Which land form would you find in most of Australia?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. This map's scale of miles is measured along which latitude line? \_\_\_\_\_
9. By what body of water is South America's large basin drained? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What vast area stretches from around 60° E to the Sea of Okhotsk? \_\_\_\_\_

# ANSWERS

## GeoSkills, p. 13

- Hanoi
- China
- South China Sea
- 17°N (called the "17th parallel")
- Saigon
- Vietnam's government lessened its control of the economy and encouraged private enterprise.
- Vietnam (7.8%)
- 2nd (7.4%)
- Mekong (Vientiane, Laos; Phnom Penh, Cambodia)
- Indonesia

## GeoSkills, pp. 18-19

- green
- mountains
- Gulf of Guinea
- north central (Great Plains)
- ice sheet
- Mount Everest
- desert
- equator
- Amazon River
- Siberia

## What Do You Know? p. 22

### News IQ

- A
- D
- B
- A
- D

### Cartoon

- a boss or chief executive of a company
- The graph shows the gains and losses of the company. Its profits are not increasing.
- Outsourcing and advances in technology are taking away jobs from Americans.
- It is a term often used for poor or developing nations to which many U.S. jobs are being outsourced—such as India and Sri Lanka.

- The humor is in the thought that robots would even be paid like people—and that Third World robots would cost even less. Some students will recognize another joke, in that the kinds of "robots" that automate human jobs do not look like space aliens.

### Sudoku

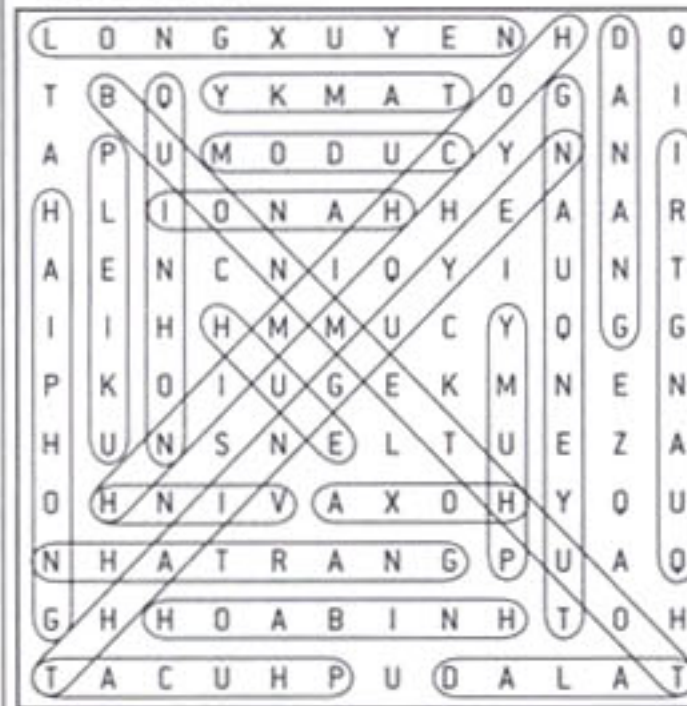
7	6	4	5	2	3	9	1	8
9	8	3	6	7	1	5	4	2
5	2	1	4	9	8	7	3	6
1	5	6	9	8	4	2	7	3
2	4	7	1	3	5	6	8	9
3	9	8	7	6	2	4	5	1
6	1	9	8	5	7	3	2	4
4	3	5	2	1	9	8	6	7
8	7	2	3	4	6	1	9	5

### Quick Quiz, p. T-5

- true
- false (for the House)
- opinion
- false
- opinion
- D
- B
- C
- C
- A
- 5th
- 4th
- 1st
- 3rd
- 2nd
- Henry Luce
- Life magazine
- World War II
- concentration camp
- Parkinson's disease

## Puzzle Reproducible, p. T-6

### Word Find



### Word Scramble

Amelia Earhart, pilot

### Skills Reproducible, p. T-7

- Seneca Falls, New York (1848)
- Wyoming (1924)

- Jeannette Rankin (1916)
- the 19th Amendment (1920)
- 51 years (1869 to 1920)
- 103 years (1865 to 1968)
- Nellie Tayloe Ross, Wyoming (1924)
- the Declaration of Independence
- 1984 (Geraldine A. Ferraro)
- 87 years (1920 to 2007)

**Bonus question:** Answers will vary.

Just say



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