

Introduction to Cartography

Cartography · Practice Test · 18 Questions

1. Who is often considered the 'Father of Cartography' for his influential maps and writings in the 2nd century AD?

- A) Gerardus Mercator
- B) Claudius Ptolemy
- C) Abraham Ortelius
- D) Al-Idrisi

2. The Mercator projection, created in 1569, is a type of map projection that is particularly useful for what purpose?

- A) Showing accurate land area
- B) Navigational charts
- C) Representing the poles
- D) Distorting continents evenly

3. What does the acronym GIS stand for in the context of modern cartography?

- A) Global Information System
- B) Geographic Information System
- C) Geodetic International Survey
- D) Geographical Imaging Software

4. The first atlas, a collection of maps, is generally attributed to which cartographer in 1570?

- A) Gerardus Mercator
- B) Claudius Ptolemy
- C) Abraham Ortelius
- D) John Snow

5. What term describes the ratio between a distance on a map and the corresponding distance on the ground?

- A) Legend
- B) Compass Rose
- C) Scale
- D) Projection

6. In cartography, what does a compass rose typically indicate?

- A) Map scale
- B) Elevation
- C) North, South, East, and West directions
- D) Key for symbols

7. Which ancient civilization is credited with creating some of the earliest known maps on clay tablets, dating back to around 2300 BC?

- A) Ancient Egyptians
- B) Ancient Greeks
- C) Ancient Mesopotamians
- D) Ancient Romans

8. The Winkel Tripel projection, adopted by the National Geographic Society in 1998, aims to balance distortions in shape, area, and distance. It was first proposed in what year?

- A) 1855
- B) 1921
- C) 1950
- D) 1980

9. What is the primary function of a map legend (or key)?

- A) To show the direction of north
- B) To explain the symbols and colors used on the map
- C) To indicate the map's scale
- D) To highlight major cities

10. The Great Trigonometrical Survey of India, a monumental cartographic undertaking, began in which year?

- A) 1767
- B) 1802
- C) 1856
- D) 1901

11. What does the term 'topographic map' specifically represent?

- A) Political boundaries of countries
- B) Road networks and cities
- C) Natural and man-made features, including elevation
- D) Ocean currents and depths

12. The Al-Idrisi map, created in the 12th century, is famous for being one of the most detailed world maps of its era and was produced for which ruler?

- A) Charlemagne
- B) King Roger II of Sicily
- C) Genghis Khan
- D) Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent

13. Which of these is a common unit of measurement used for map scale?

- A) Kilograms
- B) Centimeters
- C) Amperes
- D) Volts

14. The concept of latitude and longitude, fundamental to cartography, was significantly developed by which ancient Greek astronomer and geographer?

- A) Aristotle
- B) Archimedes
- C) Hipparchus
- D) Plato

15. What year did the first successful satellite, Sputnik 1, launch, eventually leading to advancements in satellite imagery for cartography?

- A) 1945
- B) 1957
- C) 1969
- D) 1975

16. What does the term 'choropleth map' refer to?

- A) A map showing contour lines
- B) A map using different colors or shading to represent statistical data
- C) A map depicting only rivers and lakes
- D) A map with a grid system for coordinates

17. The cartographer John Snow used maps in 1854 to track the spread of cholera in London, demonstrating the power of maps for what purpose?

- A) Urban planning
- B) Epidemiology and public health
- C) Naval warfare
- D) Geological surveying

18. What is the name of the spherical model of the Earth used in cartography and geography?

- A) A map
- B) A globe
- C) An atlas
- D) A grid