

Historical Cartography Masterclass

Cartography · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. Which 1507 world map, produced by Martin Waldseemüller, is historically significant for being the first to use the name 'America'?

- A) The Hereford Mappa Mundi
- B) The Waldseemüller Map**
- C) The Cantino Planisphere
- D) The Piri Reis Map

2. What specific mathematical projection did Gerardus Mercator introduce in 1569 that allowed navigators to plot a straight-line course as a constant compass bearing?

- A) Gnomonic projection
- B) Cylindrical conformal projection**
- C) Transverse Mercator
- D) Sinusoidal projection

3. The 'Tabula Peutingeriana' is a unique surviving example of what type of ancient cartographic record?

- A) A maritime portolan chart
- B) A Roman road map of the cursus publicus**
- C) A celestial star atlas
- D) A topographical survey of Egypt

4. Who is credited with creating the first map of the world that included both the Americas and the Pacific Ocean as a separate entity in 1527?

- A) Diogo Ribeiro**
- B) Abraham Ortelius
- C) Sebastian Münster
- D) Giovanni Battista Ramusio

5. The 1675 'Britannia' by John Ogilby is historically renowned for establishing which standard format for British road cartography?

- A) The topographical contour line
- B) The strip map**
- C) The geodesic grid
- D) The thematic choropleth

6. Which cartographer published the 'Theatrum Orbis Terrarum' in 1570, widely considered the first true modern atlas?

- A) Gerardus Mercator
- B) Willem Blaeu
- C) Abraham Ortelius**
- D) Jodocus Hondius

7. In the history of Islamic cartography, what is the primary significance of the 'Tabula Rogeriana' created by Al-Idrisi in 1154?

- A) It was the first map to show the South Pole
- B) It oriented South at the top of the map**
- C) It used GPS coordinate systems
- D) It depicted the Silk Road exclusively

8. The 'Vinland Map', a controversial document purported to be pre-Columbian, was famously analyzed for ink composition by which institution in the 20th century?

- A) The Smithsonian Institution
- B) The Yale University Library**
- C) The British Museum
- D) The Vatican Archives

9. What defined the 'Portolan charts' used by Mediterranean sailors during the 13th to 16th centuries?

- A) They utilized rhumb lines and compass roses**
- B) They were based on satellite imagery
- C) They focused on lunar phases
- D) They were drawn to a uniform scale across oceans

10. Anaximander of Miletus is historically credited with the creation of what cartographic milestone in the 6th century BCE?

- A) The first map of the inhabited world (oikoumene)**
- B) The discovery of the North Pole
- C) The invention of the sextant
- D) The first use of triangulation

11. The 'Cassini Map' of France, completed in the 18th century, was the first map of a country to be based on what scientific principle?

- A) Magnetic declination
- B) Geodetic triangulation**
- C) Bathymetric sonar
- D) Aerial photogrammetry

12. What is the historical importance of the 1755 'Mitchell Map' (John Mitchell's Map of the British and French Dominions in North America)?

A) It was the first map to depict the Rocky Mountains

B) It was used to define borders in the Treaty of Paris (1783)

C) It accurately predicted the size of the Pacific

D) It served as a map for the first flight across the Atlantic