

Historical Cartography Masterclass

Cartography · Practice Test · 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