

Pioneers of Mapping

Cartography · Practice Test · 8 Questions

1. Who is historically credited with creating the first world map that depicted the Americas as a separate continent in 1507?

- A) Martin Waldseemüller
- B) Gerardus Mercator
- C) Claudius Ptolemy
- D) Abraham Ortelius

2. Which invention allowed cartographers to accurately determine longitude at sea for the first time?

- A) The astrolabe
- B) The marine chronometer
- C) The sextant
- D) The magnetic compass

3. What was the title of the first true modern atlas, published by Abraham Ortelius in 1570?

- A) Geographia
- B) Cosmographia
- C) Theatrum Orbis Terrarum
- D) Atlas Maior

4. Gerardus Mercator is best known for developing a map projection in 1569 that was revolutionary for which purpose?

- A) Topographic surveying
- B) Navigational sailing
- C) Aeronautical charting
- D) Population density mapping

5. In the 2nd century AD, who wrote 'Geographia', a work that provided the first formal instructions on how to create maps using latitude and longitude?

- A) Eratosthenes
- B) Anaximander
- C) Claudius Ptolemy
- D) Herodotus

6. Which Greek scholar is famously credited with being the first to calculate the circumference of the Earth with surprising accuracy using simple geometry?

- A) Eratosthenes
- B) Aristotle
- C) Strabo
- D) Hipparchus

7. What instrument was introduced to European cartography in the 12th century, significantly improving the ability to determine cardinal directions?

- A) The cross-staff
- B) The quadrant
- C) The magnetic compass
- D) The vernier scale

8. Which 17th-century French cartographer produced the first scientific map of France, correcting errors regarding the nation's longitudinal width?

- A) Nicolas Sanson
- B) Jean-Dominique Cassini
- C) Guillaume Delisle
- D) Jacques Nicolas Bellin