Advanced Cartography Fundamentals

Geography · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which map projection is specifically designed to preserve accurate angles and shapes, making it ideal for marine navigation, despite distorting landmasses near the poles?

A) Mercator
B) Robinson
C) Gall-Peters
D) Mollweide

2. On a topographic map, what do closely spaced contour lines indicate about the physical terrain?

A) A gentle slope
B) A plateau
C) A steep gradient
D) A depression

3. What is the term for the numerical scale that represents the ratio of a distance on the map to the corresponding distance on the ground?

A) Representative Fraction
B) Verbal Scale
C) Graphic Scale
D) Bar Scale

4. Which line of latitude marks the southernmost point where the sun can be directly overhead at noon during the December solstice?

A) Tropic of Cancer
B) Equator
C) Tropic of Capricorn
D) Arctic Circle

5. The study and practice of making maps using data from satellites or aircraft is known as what?

A) Photogrammetry
B) Topography
C) Cartometry
D) Geodesy

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6. Which map projection is classified as an 'equal-area' projection, designed to minimize distortion of the relative sizes of continents?

A) Mercator
B) Gall-Peters
C) Lambert Conformal
D) Robinson

7. What is the name of the coordinate system that identifies a location using an X and Y grid based on a specific map projection, commonly used in military and emergency mapping?

A) Universal Transverse Mercator
B) Geographic Coordinate System
C) Prime Meridian Grid
D) Equatorial Projection

8. In cartography, what are 'isopleths' used to represent on a thematic map?

A) Population density
B) Lines of constant value
C) Mountain elevations
D) Political boundaries

9. Which terrestrial measurement represents the distance between two points on the Earth's surface along a great circle, also known as the shortest path?

A) Rhumb line
B) Geodesic
C) Parallel
D) Meridian

10. What is the primary purpose of a 'choropleth' map?

A) To show terrain height
B) To represent statistical data via shaded areas
C) To depict wind patterns
D) To display historical shipping routes

11. What does the 'Tissot's Indicatrix' illustrate on a map projection?

A) The magnetic declination
B) The distortion of shapes and areas
C) The elevation of the seafloor
D) The population center of a region

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12. Which cartographic element explains the symbols, colors, and patterns used to represent features on a map?

A) Legend
B) Cartouche
C) Compass Rose
D) Graticule

13. What is the difference between true north and the direction a magnetic compass points called?

A) Magnetic inclination
B) Magnetic declination
C) Geodetic shift
D) Polar wandering

14. What term describes a map projection that maintains the correct area of landmasses but distorts their shapes?

A) Conformal
B) Equivalent
C) Equidistant
D) Azimuthal

15. The Prime Meridian passes through which historic location?

A) Paris, France
B) Greenwich, United Kingdom
C) Rome, Italy
D) Washington D.C., USA

16. What is a 'bathymetric' map designed to represent?

A) Soil composition
B) Depth of water bodies
C) Urban development
D) Air pressure zones

17. Which type of map projection is most commonly used for general-purpose world maps because it strikes a visual balance between shape and size distortion?

A) Robinson
B) Mercator
C) Sinusoidal
D) Lambert

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18. What does a 'hypsometric' tint represent on a topographic map?

A) Political districts
B) Ocean salinity
C) Elevation ranges
D) Average temperature

19. Which grid system uses degrees, minutes, and seconds to specify the position of a point on the Earth's surface?

A) Geographic coordinate system
B) State Plane system
C) Universal Transverse Mercator
D) Military Grid Reference System

20. What is the 'datum' in cartography?

A) The color palette of the map
B) A reference frame for measuring locations on the Earth
C) The date the map was published
D) The thickness of the map paper

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