

# Maps

by ReadWorks



People use maps for many different purposes. There are maps that show demographics-the different groups of people that live in a certain area; where every fruit tree in a particular area is located; where all the vending machines are. There are even maps that show great places to walk your dog.

Many areas around the world have maps that show their transportation systems. A lot of people use these maps every day to get to where they want to go. Sometimes, though, you can make your own map of a place in your head. You can do this by noticing certain markers and cues. For instance, say you had just moved to a new city and wanted to get to the grocery store. The grocery store's location could be described in terms of its longitude and latitude, street address, and even sea level. But the information you're after is where it is located in relation to your new home. Once you have this information, you can establish a

route to get there.

Take note of the landmarks near you and on the way to your destination. One way to remember you're on the correct route might be to note, for example, that when you're headed south, toward the store, the local library is on your left. That means the library is on the east side of the street. Let's imagine you notice a house with a bright red door two blocks from the store. In the future, when you're on your way to the store, you'll be able to tell you're almost there when you see the house with the red door. You keep walking. There's a hat shop one block from the grocery store. Another landmark! If you were to go home and draw yourself a map of the area, you might include each of these landmarks.

Cues like these help us orient ourselves in the world around us when we don't have access to maps, or are getting used to an unfamiliar environment. This route, the route to the grocery store, is now part of your internal map. When you're walking around town, riding your bike or in a car, you're absorbing data about where things are located in relation to each other. If you think about it, there are probably lots of places you can remember how to get to, by heart. Those internal maps contribute to your knowledge of the world around you. When you think of the city or town where you grew up, don't you think of routes and pathways you've traveled habitually?

When we explore new places, we often make connections between various point As and point Bs through personal association. But since we can't build these personal maps in every town and city in the world, we get to know some places by looking at maps. Knowing how to read a map and practicing reading maps of lots of different places are excellent ways to expand your knowledge of the world.

**cue**   **cue****Advanced Definition****noun**

1. in theater, anything done or said that is a signal for speech or action on the stage.
2. anything that serves as a signal for action.

*The bell was our cue to come to dinner.*

**transitive verb**

1. to signal by giving a cue to.

**These are some examples of how the word or forms of the word are used:**

1. Some kids also don't realize that they're cyberbullies because they don't see the consequences of their actions. "In face-to-face communication, we see when we've gone too far," she says. "We lose all those visual **cues** online."
2. You may be surprised to learn that the human eye can't see in 3-D. "We only have access to 2-D images," says Schowengerdt. "It's the job of the brain to interpret a host of **cues** to determine depth and create a 3-D image."
3. Before the tsunami struck, animals may have started to flee because they saw other creatures running. "Animals take their **cues** from other animals," said Dee.
4. The lighting director must finalize his or her plans for the lighting arrangements and instruct the crew on what to do and when to do it. The same is true for the sound coordinator and, if the show contains music, the musicians and music director as well. All of the technical team must learn the **cues** from the actors. Cues could be a line or a movement delivered by an actor that is a signal to the technical team to take some kind of action, for instance shut off a light.

# orient   o · ri · ent

## Advanced Definition

### noun

1. (cap., outdated) the regions east and southeast of southern Europe, esp. the Far East (usu. prec. by the); the East.

*The English traders returned from the Orient bringing tea and spices.*

### transitive verb

1. to find the position of with respect to the points of the compass.

*The lost hikers oriented themselves by locating the North Star.*

2. to acquaint or familiarize (someone) with new surroundings or circumstances.

*This program will orient the new students to college life.*

3. to place or arrange in a specified relationship to the points of the compass.

*The architect oriented the house so that it would get morning light in the kitchen.*

4. to adjust (something) toward or in relation to someone or something.

*We should orient this ad toward working mothers.*

### intransitive verb

1. to become adjusted to an environment or set of circumstances.

*She soon oriented to her new duties.*

## Spanish cognate

*orientar*: The Spanish word *orientar* means orient.

## These are some examples of how the word or forms of the word are used:

1. A ball with a dense inner core can hook even more strongly. As it rolls down the lane, it gradually changes its **orientation**, putting a fresh section of ball in contact with the oily floor.

# route route

## Definition

### noun

1. a road or way of travel from one place to another.

*The bus travels the same route every day.*

## Advanced Definition

### noun

1. a way, such as a road, by which persons travel or by which goods are shipped or delivered.

*She walks to school by the same route through the neighbor's yard everyday.*

*A trade route was established very early between India and Europe.*

*The bus makes a lot stops along this route.*

2. a specific highway.

*We took route 80 all the way to New Jersey.*

3. the usual area covered or the regular stops made by a salesperson, delivery person, or the like.

*A dog bit him while he was walking his mail route.*

### transitive verb

1. to direct by way of a route.

*That airline routes most of its flights through Philadelphia.*

## Spanish cognate

*ruta*: The Spanish word *ruta* means route.

## These are some examples of how the word or forms of the word are used:

1. In Edmonton, Alberta, public transportation is not a great option for getting around. Up until early 2013, there was only one subway that went along a single **route**, back and forth.
2. Lewis and Clark and their Corps of Discovery were charged with finding a **route** from the east

through this enormous and uncharted new terrain all the way west to the Pacific Ocean.

3. As soon as they arrive, Lola begins cleaning and stocking his truck, inserting all of the local favorite types of ice cream pops and flavored frozen ices into specific freezer compartments to be sold once Gus drives along his **route**.
4. Riding the bus is hard, though, because we do not have personal control over it. The bus travels on its set **route**, and it is sometimes late or slow. It doesn't run all the time, especially at night. Riding the bus makes it hard to change our plans.
5. We can see from Magellan's chilling example that the price of exploration was high. But even the threat of death didn't deter the explorers, who were motivated by grand ambitions. They thought only of the riches they might reap after opening new trade **routes** or the celebrity they would enjoy.
6. While in Springfield, John Brown became deeply involved in helping transform the city into a safe and significant stop on the Underground Railroad. The Underground Railroad was a secret network of houses and **routes** used by black slaves in the United States to escape north to the free states and Canada.
7. In May of 1804, Lewis and Clark and their Corps of Discovery began their journey on the Missouri River, leaving St. Louis and sailing northwest. Lewis' main job, besides leading the men, was to make maps and charts of the geography of the unknown land. Clark was usually seen studying rocks, plants, and animals along the **route**.
8. Van Aken has been a letter carrier for over two decades, spending the last several years in Sunnyside, Queens. In that time, he has seen children grow from babies to go on to college. Some of the people on his **route** have given him baby clothes for his own son. On his route, he usually delivers the mail first to businesses and then to homes.
9. The most direct **route** from Shanghai to Chongqing was by boat on the Yangtze River. However, the Japanese had occupied many coastal cities by that time. My grandmother's family had to take a huge detour. They traveled by sea to Hong Kong, then to North Vietnam.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How do people use maps that show the transportation systems of areas?

- A. to find buried treasure
- B. to get to where they want to go
- C. to learn about mountains and rivers
- D. to find their way around a building

2. What does the author describe in this passage?

- A. how to get to the grocery store
- B. how to ride a bike
- C. how you can use a map
- D. how you can find a pathway

3. Read the following sentences: "There are maps that show demographics-the different groups of people that live in a certain area; where every fruit tree in a particular area is located; where all the vending machines are. There are even maps that show great places to walk your dog."

What can be concluded about maps based on this information?

- A. Maps can only show one location.
- B. Maps are not very helpful.
- C. There are different types of maps.
- D. There is only one kind of map.

4. Read the following sentences: "There's a hat shop one block from the grocery store. Another landmark! If you were to go home and draw yourself a map of the area, you might include each of these landmarks. Cues like these help us orient ourselves in the world around us when we don't have access to maps, or are getting used to an unfamiliar environment."

Based on this evidence, why is remembering landmarks helpful?

- A. They help you find a location when you have access to maps.
- B. They help you find a location even if you don't have access to maps.
- C. They help you find locations on different maps.
- D. They will always help you find different hat shops in an area.

5. What is this passage mainly about?

- A. how to find the local grocery store
- B. how maps help us find our way
- C. how to remember unfamiliar landmarks
- D. how latitude and longitude can help us

6. Read the following sentences: "When you think of the city or town where you grew up, don't you think of routes and pathways you've traveled **habitually**?"

As used in the passage, what does "**habitually**" mean?

- A. obsessively
- B. often
- C. quickly
- D. infrequently

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

When we look at a map of a new area, such as a transportation map, we can figure out where we're going. \_\_\_\_\_, as we explore the world, we make new internal maps of landmarks and important places.

- A. Finally
- B. Additionally
- C. Unfortunately
- D. Actually

8. Why does the author think it's important to know how to read a map, and practice reading maps of lots of different places?

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9. According to the author of this passage, what is one strategy you can use to get to know a new neighborhood?

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**10.** Explain what an internal map is and how it is different from other types of maps. Use information from the passage to support your answer.

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