

What Geographers Know

WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY

"Geography is the study of the Earth's landscapes, peoples, places and environments. It is, quite simply, the study of the world we live in."

Geography is part of your everyday life; you use it every day without even realizing!

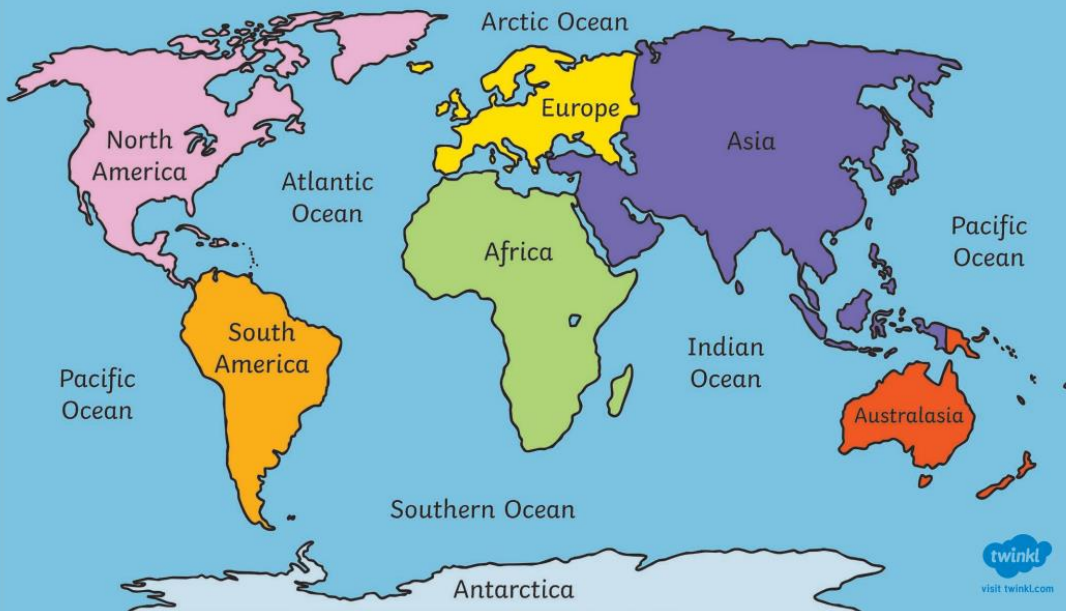
TYPES OF GEOGRAPHY

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY The impact of people on the earth

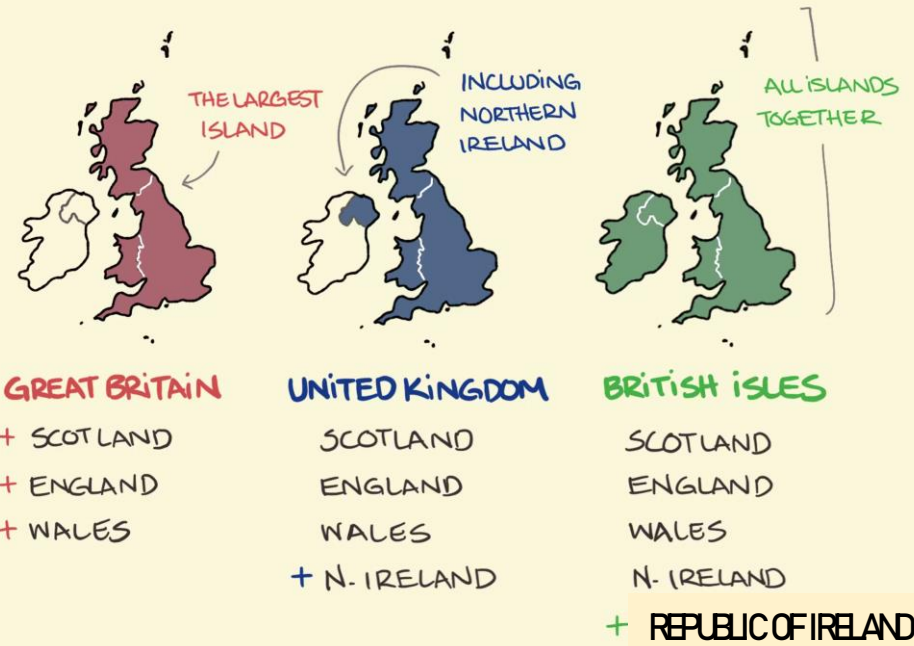
PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY The natural world without people

ENVIRONMENTAL GEOGRAPHY Human interaction with nature

Continents and Oceans



WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN...



Describing Maps

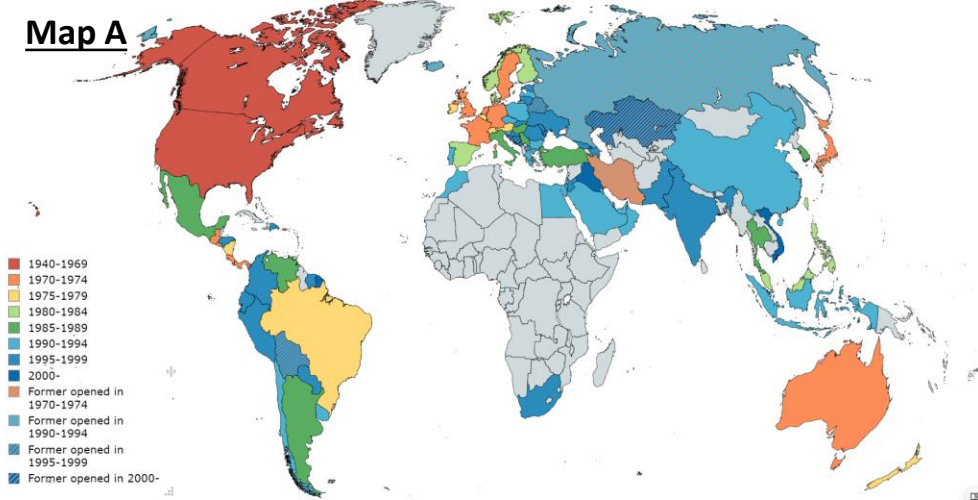
When describing maps first look at the title and information the key if it has one for extra help. The map might have the equator or place names to help you. You can also always use your knowledge of compass directions to describe its location and also look at nearby places.

Key Terms:

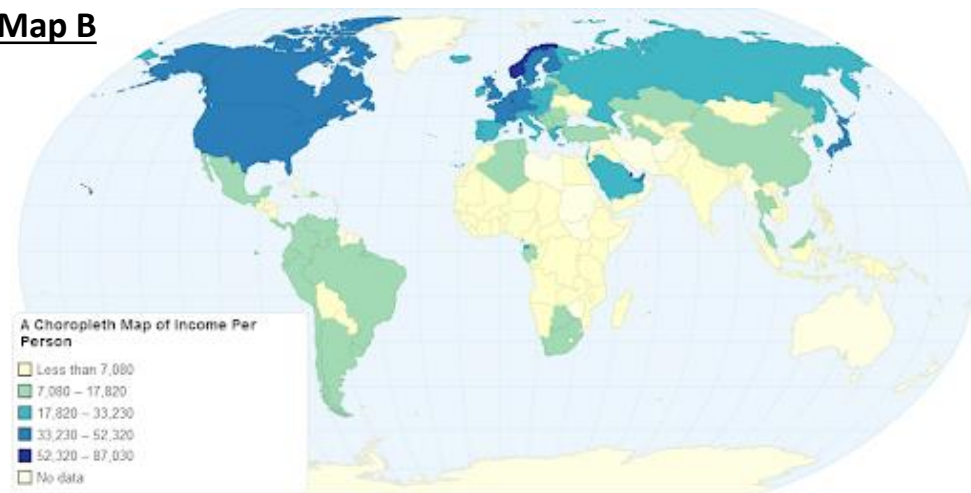
GIS – Geographical Information system. This is an online map that contains different layers and give you the ability to zoom in and out and read data about places.

Field sketch – a simple drawing of a landscape that is annotated to show important features.

Map A



Map B

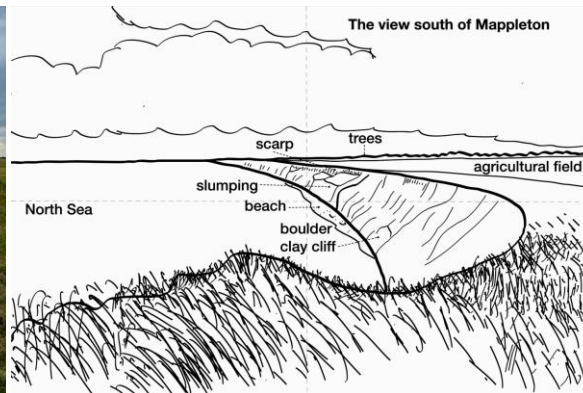
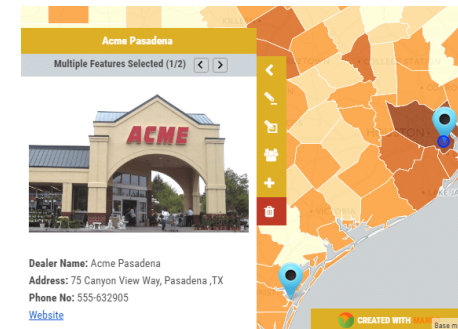


Comparing data to explain maps

Geographers can use different maps to compare data and explain patterns. For example map A shows the location of McDonald's restaurants around the world. You can gain this information from looking at the key. An obvious pattern is that many countries in Central Africa do not have McDonald's restaurants. We can compare this to map B which shows different countries by people's average income. By using the key we can find out that many Central African countries have very low income per person. We can use this data to explain why many of these countries do not have McDonald's restaurants.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) enables users to add layers to show different information and zoom in and out to different scales. GIS is a useful source of secondary data and it can be used to plan geographical enquiries. Google Earth uses GIS to provide further information about places on maps. More information can be found if you google [BBC Bitesize Geographical information systems](#)



Field Sketching

A field sketch is a simple diagram of a landscape that can be drawn quickly and labelled to show the important features. The photograph shows a south facing view of the Mappleton Coast. A Geographer has sketched this view and labelled the important Geographical Features. An excellent example of field sketching can be found by googling [‘Internet Geography Field Sketching’](#)