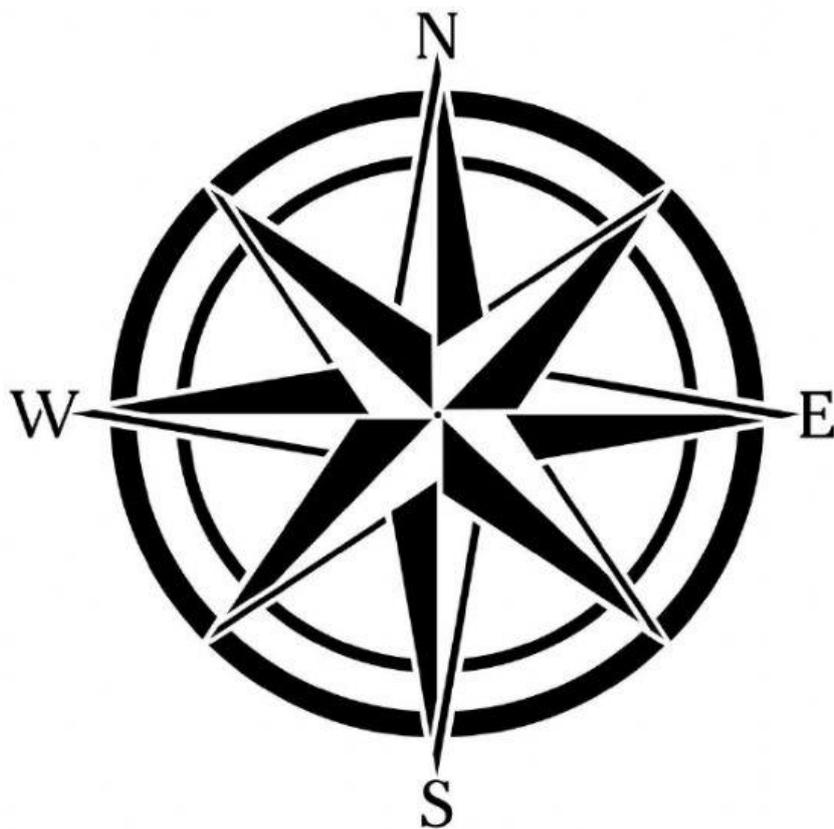


Map Skills

Grades 7-9



Created by Sally Johnson

UNDERSTANDING PARTS OF A MAP

It is important to know the different parts of a map, so that we can accurately locate places. Mapmakers (Cartographers) provide several clues to help us to understand the information on the map.

TITLE
The title lets you know what the map is about.

COMPASS ROSE
A compass is used to show directions between places on a map.

KEY/LEGEND
It lets you know what the symbols or colours represent in the real world.

SCALE
A Scale is used to measure distances between places on a map.

The map shows the island of Abaco with the title 'ABACO' at the top. It includes a compass rose in the top right, a legend in the bottom left, and a scale bar at the bottom. The legend identifies symbols for Main Settlement (black square), Settlement (red dot), and Airport (blue airplane icon). The scale bar shows distances in miles (0 to 20) and kilometers (0 to 20). The map also features a grid of latitude and longitude lines and labels for Cooper's Town, Marsh Harbour, and Sandy Point.

Your task:

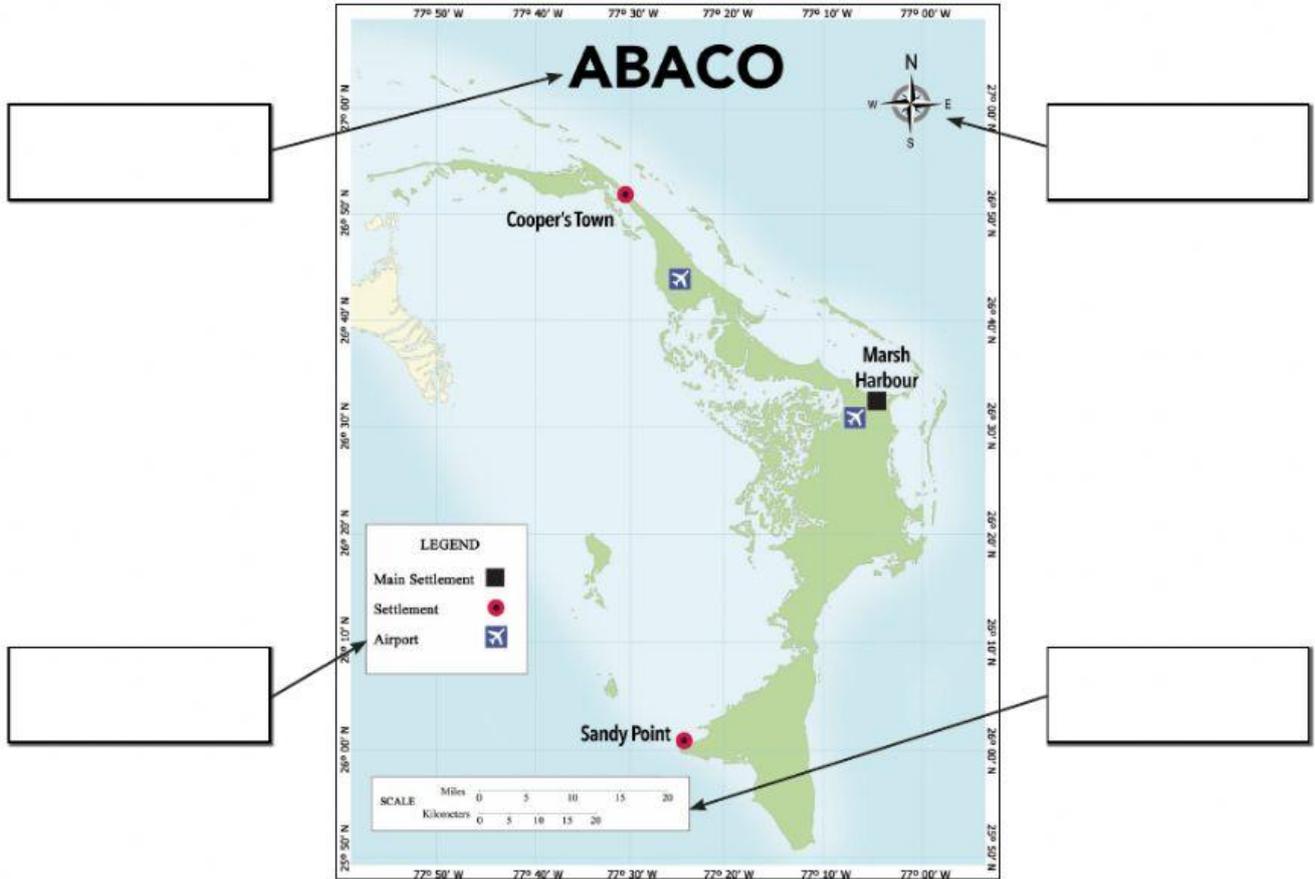
Applying what you know about maps, your task is to design a map of an imaginary place. You must ensure that your map has all of the following parts:

1. Title
2. Map Key
3. Scale
4. Compass Rose

UNDERSTANDING PARTS OF A MAP

It is important to know the different parts of a map, so that we can accurately locate places. Mapmakers (Cartographers) provide several clues to help us to understand the information on the map.

Section A: Study the diagram and then label the missing parts.



Section B: Answer all questions.

1. What is the title of this map? _____
2. Which part of the map would you look to for the meaning of this symbol: _____
3. What part of the map is used to show distance between two places? _____
4. Which part of the map tells directions between places? _____
5. Which part of the map do you think is most important and why?

USING MAP SYMBOLS AND LEGENDS

Cartographers use map symbols to represent real objects or man-made objects shown in the real world. A map key or legend explains what these symbols mean on a map.

Map symbols are simple drawings designed to help making and reading a map easier. They might be lines, patterned shape or simple pictures. Symbols can represent natural features like Forest or man-made features like roads.



Airport



Church



Hospital



Forest

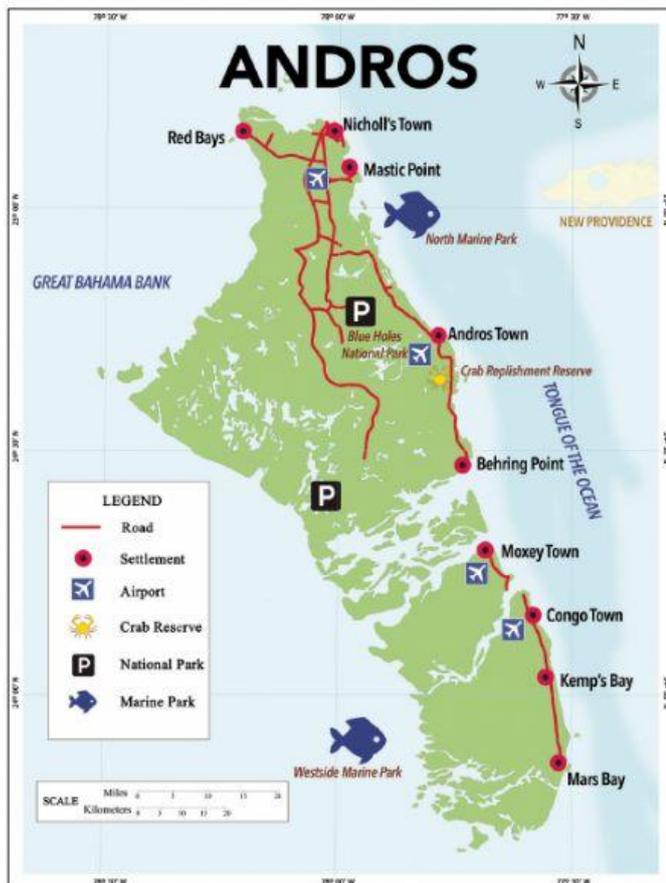


Road



Bridge

Legends: The Key to Reading Maps



MAP KEY OR LEGEND

To help you understand what the symbols mean, there is a key/legend on a map which lists all the symbols with what they represent.

USING MAP SYMBOLS AND LEGENDS

Cartographers use map symbols to represent real objects or man-made objects shown in the real world. A map key or legend explains what these symbols mean on a map.

Section A: Can you guess what these symbols represent?





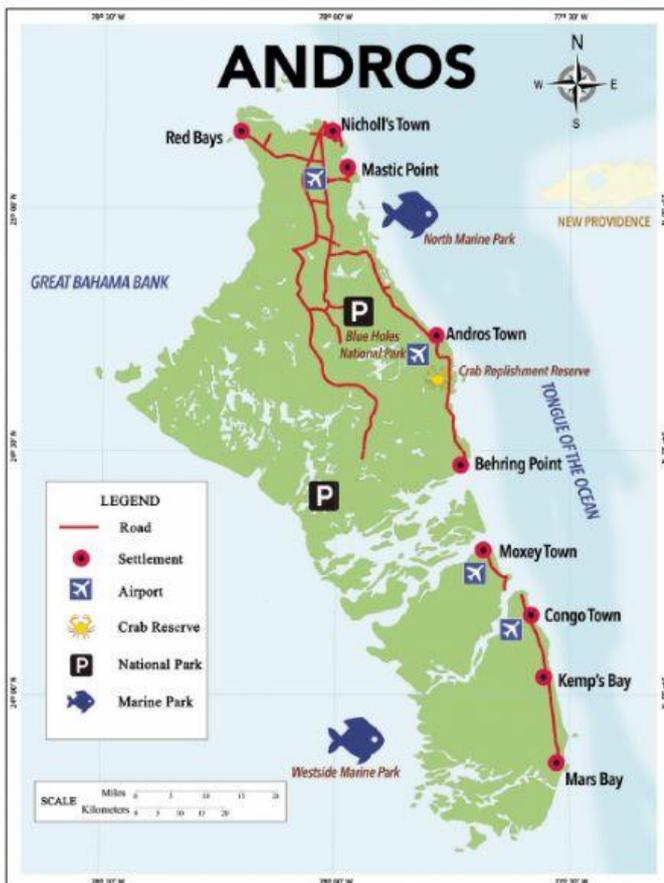








Section B: Study the map below showing Andros Island then answer the questions below.



- Name at least two Marine Protected Areas shown on the map.

- What is the main economic activity that Androsians can earn a living from?

- What does this  symbol represent?

- What the name of the deepest body of water located on the East side of the island?

- Which large shallow water body is located to the west side of Andros?

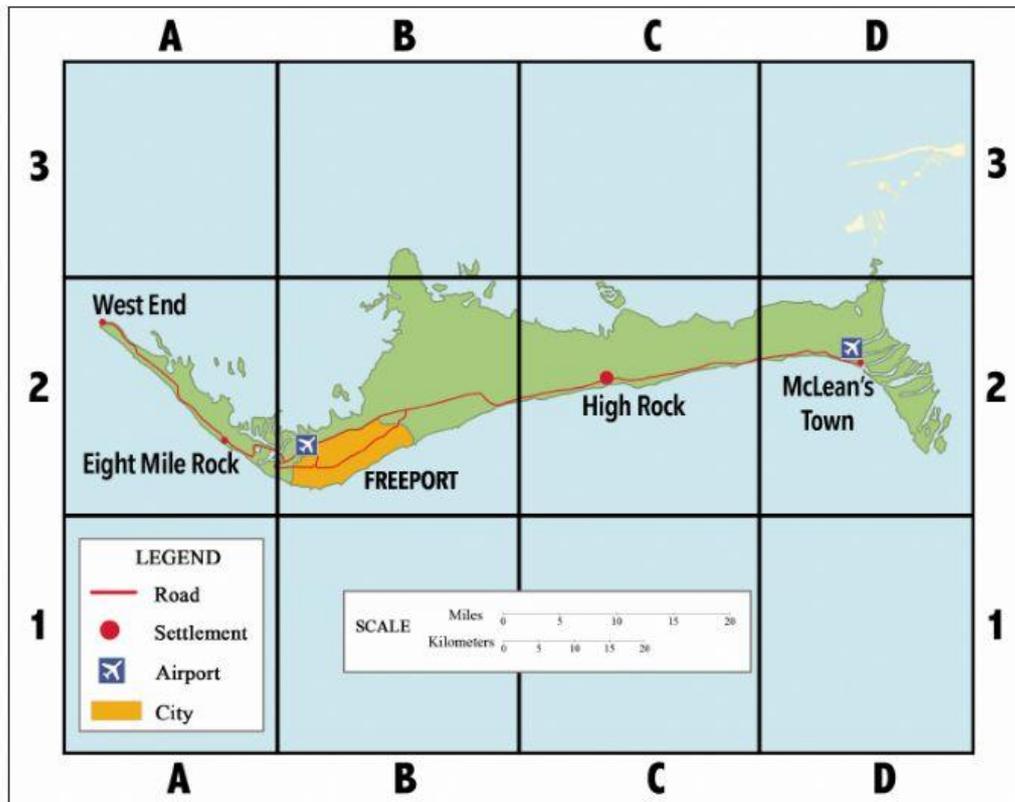
- What is main settlement is nearest to New Providence?

ALPHA-NUMERIC GRID REFERENCES

Alpha-Numeric map grids are drawn on maps to help mapmakers find the exact location of a place. A grid is a system of horizontal and vertical lines that cross each other to form squares. The squares are labeled with numbers from left to right and with letters from top to bottom. That way, each square has its own number/ letter combination.

Before moving on to four figure grid references, it is best to learn alpha-numeric grid references to become familiar with the concept. This simple concept looks at plotting places on to a map where ever a letter number line intersect or meets.

Section A: Can you plot the reference points for the following?



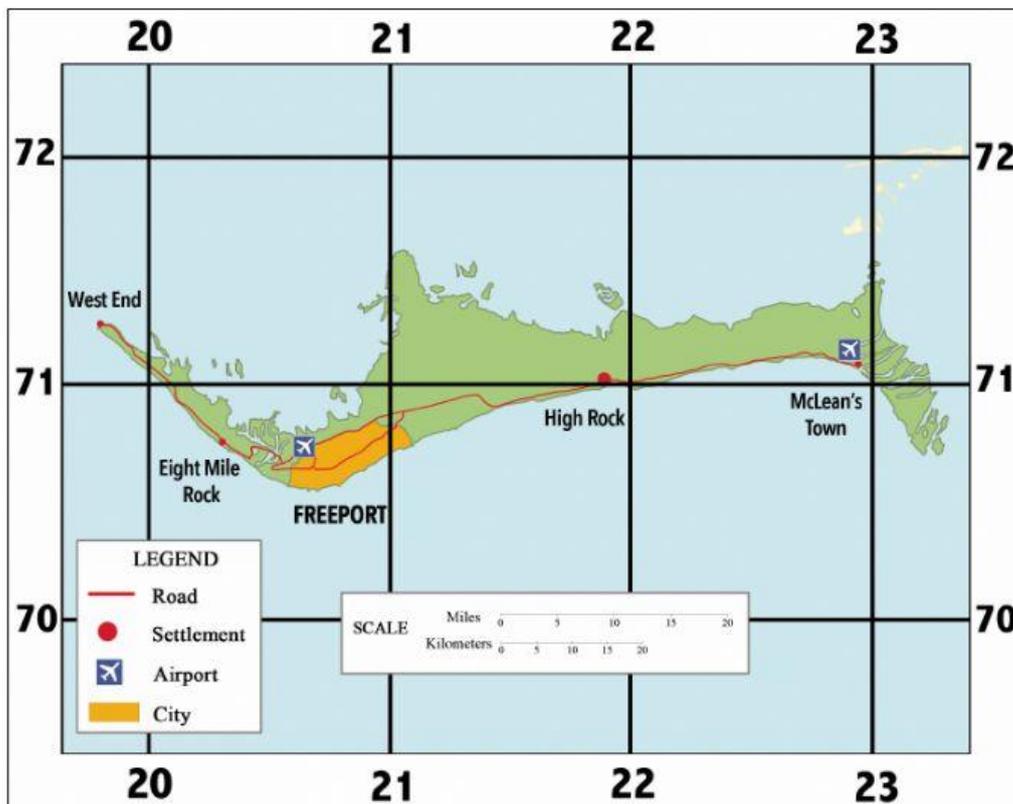
1. West End _____
2. Freeport _____
3. McLean's Town _____
4. Eight Mile Rock _____
5. High Rock _____

FOUR FIGURE GRID REFERENCES

Four Figure map grids are similar to Alpha Numeric Grids. They are drawn on maps to help mapmakers find the exact location of a place. The grid system has horizontal and vertical lines that cross each other to form squares. The squares are labeled with numbers from left to right and from top to bottom. That way, each square has its own number combination.

Four-Figure Grids plot the horizontal coordinate (Easting) followed by the vertical coordinate (Northing). The airport on the eastern end of the island is located in square 2271.

Section A: Can you plot the reference points for the following?



1. West End _____
2. Freeport _____
3. McLean's Town _____
4. Eight Mile Rock _____
5. High Rock _____

