

Map Skills 1

When we looked at the Antarctic as part of our Learning Adventure, we looked at maps of the world and looked specifically at the lines of <u>longitude</u> and <u>latitude</u>. We are now going to be looking at maps which are more zoomed in and so show more detail of geographic and human features. For some of your tasks you will be using the <u>Ordnance Survey Map</u> at the end of this document.



Background information on Maps

- Maps are drawings of the world seen from above
- Maps are made by people called cartographers
- Maps come in different shapes and sizes and different designs for different purposes:
 - Some are political (show boundary lines between countries or regions)
 - Some show physical features (rivers, mountains, forests)
 - Some show the topography (different heights of ground above sea level)
 - Some show the climate (areas which receive more rainfall or snow, or have dry weather)
 - Some show resources (crops that are grown, minerals that are present)
 - Some show transport links (roads, motorways, railways)

Watch the BBC Bitesize video on maps (https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvsfr82/articles/zdk46v4). Then complete the compass labelling activity at the bottom of the page on compass directions.

What are Ordnance Survey Maps?

This type of map was first made in the 1700s for the military, but it wasn't until the early 20th century when work started on maps that we would recognise today.

Before modern technologies, all the maps were drawn by hand. Can you imagine the numbers of people and the time it would take...not to mention the amount of paper!

Symbols

Features on maps are shown using symbols rather than words to make them clearer (there wouldn't be enough space to write everything down in words!). The symbols themselves can be coloured areas, lines, letters or small pictures. If you look at the map of Ashford at the bottom of this document, you will see lots of these.

Use the OS website to find out about the different symbols: https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapzone/assets/doc/Explorer-25k-Legend-en.pdf

YOUR TASK

Using the link above, look at the map at the bottom of this document, sketch some of the symbols you can see and write down what they stand for. You do not have to write down all of them, but think about challenging yourself. You must have at least 10 different symbols.

Great Geographer Challenge: Are the features you have found physical or human features?

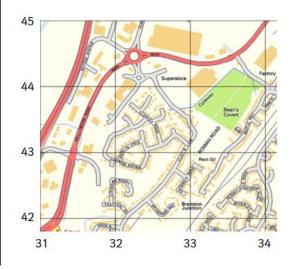
More info on symbols:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvsfr82/articles/zjdkhbk

Grid references / coordinates

Think back to when we looked at the world map and there were lines of longitude and latitude. Remember we used the lines so then specific countries could be identified from the coordinates involving one line of longitude and one line of latitude.

On a smaller-scale map, this is very similar. You will notice on the OS Map of Ashford, there are criss-cross of horizontal (left to right) and vertical (up and down) lines. This creates squares, known as a **grid**. The grid makes it easier to locate features on a map.



Grid references / coordinate

Reading the grid is very similar to coordinates in Maths. All the grid lines are numbered to help find the specific areas on the map.

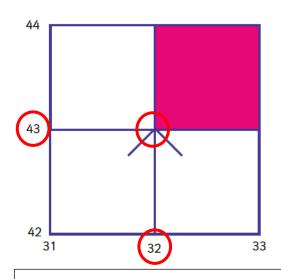
Eastings are the numbers that run from left to right on the map (similar to the x-axis on a graph).

Northings run from south to north (similar to the y-axis on a graph).

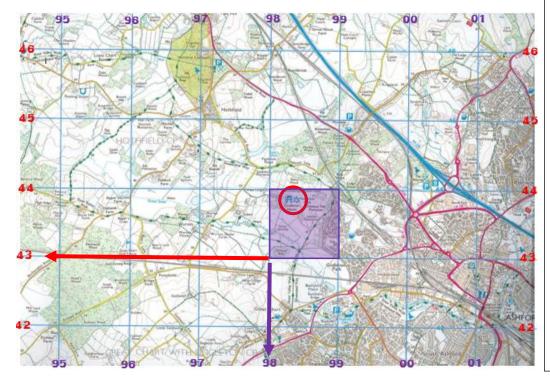
Four-figure grid references

Using the 2 digits of the easting and 2 digits of the northing creates a four-figure grid reference. This is the reference for the **bottom left corner** of a square on the map.

Remember! Always start with the eastings first. Think 'along the corridor and up the stairs' as we would in Maths when looking at coordinates. We don't need to put the brackets around though like we would in Maths.



The four-figure grid reference for the square shaded pink is 32,43.



Worked Example

To work out the grid reference where **Godinton House** is located:

- 'Along the corridor and up the stairs'
 - Using the eastings,
 Godinton House lies in the 98 square
 - Using the northings,
 Godinton House is in the 43 square

This means it has the fourfigure grid reference of 98,43 (remember eastings comes first!)

YOUR TASK

You are going to put all of these skills to the test. Using the symbols you have found out about and your understanding of grid references you will be asked to identify the feature in a given grid reference or asked to write the grid reference for a particular feature. Use the worked example to help you. To make it a little easier for you as you don't have a physical OS Map in front of you, we have made the grid easier to see and have changed the colour of the eastings (purple) and northings (red). So for each of your grid references you should have one purple number and one red number separated by a comma (,).

- 1. What feature can be found in the grid reference 99,42?
- 2. What feature can be found in the grid reference 00,45?
- 3. What feature can be found in the grid reference 95,45?
- 4. Find the symbol for a public house on the map. Write its grid reference.
- 5. Find the Stour Centre on the map. Write its grid reference.
- 6. List four features that can be found in 98,42.
- 7. Write a grid reference containing a natural resource the Anglo-Saxons may have used when they settled in Ashford. (Hint: You may want to look back at the resources they would have needed from your <u>previous Creative Adventure</u> task).

