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Ch4-Maps(Geography)

Topic-Component of Maps

To study any map we need to understand basic concepts which are given below:-

- **Distance between two points or scale**
- **Direction or Cardinal points**
- **Symbols or Conventional signs**

Scales

Distances are shown with the help of scale. It is the ratio between the actual distance on the ground & its corresponding distance on the map. When the area to be represented is large, we use a small scale but when the area is small, then a large scale is represented. Large scale maps can show more details as compared to small scale maps.

Cardinal points of Directions

A vertical line with an arrow head, generally in the northern part of the map with the letter 'N' written indicates the north direction. In top is north, bottom is South, right hand is East & left hand is West.

Symbol

Certain signs & symbols are used to show the different features like a road, bridge, market, school etc. In physical maps Green colour is used for plains, yellow for deserts, brown for highlands & mountains while blue is used to show rivers, seas & oceans.

Tourists usually take the help of maps to study the area properly. Travellers can easily understand these symbols as they are internationally accepted signs & symbols.

Sketch

A rough drawing of any area, based on memory, drawn without a scale is called sketch. It helps to locate or show places which we need to visit. A sketch gives us an overall idea about the location of any place.

Plan

A plan is drawing which shows the layout of a building. It is a drawing of any small area on a large scale with all the necessary minute details.

It is used by architects who design houses. We can use it to show the actual sizes of rooms along with the doors, windows, almirah etc. A plan is drawn according to a scale.

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