

Getting to Know Your Atlas

Presidents and Abbreviations

1. Turn to the inside front cover of *The Nystrom Atlas of United States History*. Use this page to answer the following questions.
 - a. Who was president from 1901 to 1909? Theodore Roosevelt
 - b. Who was the third president of the United States? Thomas Jefferson
 - c. When was William McKinley president? 1897-1901
 - d. What does the abbreviation *Terr.* stand for? Territory
 - e. What is the atlas abbreviation for "river"? R.

Contents

2. Now turn to pages 2–3. Look at the table of contents. Match the topics with the pages that have information on them.

Information About	Page Numbers
a. Civil War	122–123
b. Baby Boom	120–121
c. Your state	96–97
d. definition of <i>annex</i>	52–61

Using This Atlas

3. Turn to pages 4–5. These pages have tips on using the Atlas. Read the steps on page 4. Then number the following items in the order they should be read.

a. Overview	<u>4</u>
b. Timeline	<u>2</u>
c. A B C D markers	<u>5</u>
d. Era title	<u>1</u>
e. Topic title	<u>3</u>

Looking at Atlas Pages

4. Turn to pages 6–7. Use these pages to answer the following questions.

- What is the era title? Three Worlds Meet
- On the timeline, what happened in 1096? First Crusade Began
- What is the topic title? The Long Journey to the Americas
- Read the overview. Which continent did the first people in the Americas come from? Asia
- What does diagram A on page 6 show? Changing Sea Levels
- What is the title of map B on page 6? Were These The Earliest Journeys?

State Facts

5. Turn to pages 122–123. Use the information in the “State Facts” chart to answer the following questions.

- What is the capital of Kansas? Topeka
- When did Tennessee become a state? 1796
- Which state has the largest population? California
- Which state has the largest area? Alaska

Your State

6. Use the “State Facts” chart to list facts about your own state.

- State capital Harrisburg
- Largest city Philadelphia
- Number of U.S. House members 18
- % Urban 77%

Index

7. Turn to pages 124–128. Use the Index to answer the following questions.

- What is Harper’s Ferry? A city in Virginia (today WV)
- Where is Pottawatomie? Kansas
- On what page would you find information about Tecumseh? Page 40

Reviewing Basic Map Skills

Map Legend

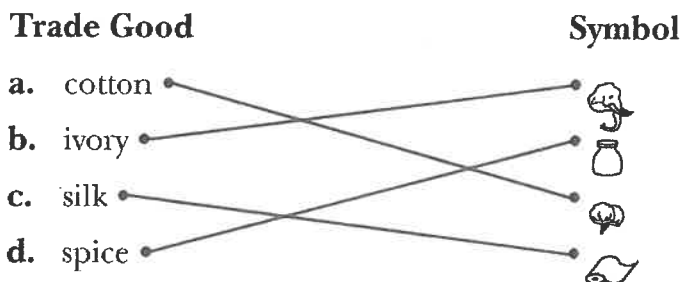
1. A map *legend*, or *key*, tells you what the colors, lines, and other symbols on the map mean. Turn to page 23 of the Atlas. Look at map C, "Other European Settlements." Use your finger to outline the legend.

This map uses colors to show European settlement areas. The map legend tells you what each color represents. Write the group represented by each color.

- a. purple English
- b. pink French
- c. green Dutch
- d. blue Swedish

Map Symbols

2. Turn to page 13. Look at map C, "Treasures of the Indies." This map uses symbols to show trade goods. Draw a line to match each trade good with its symbol.



More Map Symbols

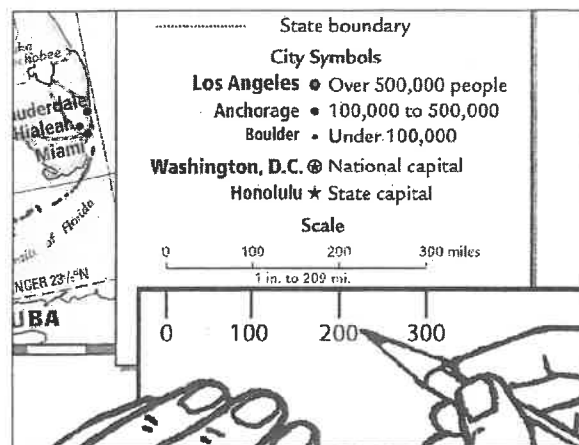
3. On maps, lines and words can also have meaning. Turn to pages 112–113. Use the map legend and the map to answer the following questions.

- a. How are the state boundaries shown? Thin black dotted line
- b. What color are the names of oceans? Blue
- c. What names are shown in black capital letters? State and country names
- d. Why are some city names larger than others?
Their populations are larger
- e. What does the symbol ★ represent? state capital

Map Scale

4. On the map on pages 112–113, there is a map scale at the bottom of the legend. This scale shows the distance on the map that equals 100, 200, and 300 miles. The scale also shows kilometers.

Here's a way to use a map scale. Put the edge of a piece of paper just below the scale for miles. On the edge of the paper, mark the map distances in miles. Use the map scale you just made to measure the miles between Chicago, Illinois, and the following cities. Write your answer in the blanks.



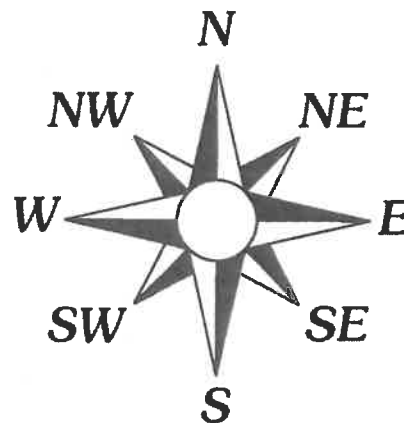
What's the distance in miles from Chicago to . . .

- a. Milwaukee, Wisconsin? 100 miles
 b. Cleveland, Ohio? 300 miles
 c. Washington, D.C.? 600 miles

Directions

5. On pages 112–113, find the compass rose at the bottom of the map. It only labels north (N). The compass rose on this activity sheet labels all four cardinal directions—north (N), south (S), east (E), and west (W). It also shows intermediate directions—northeast (NE), southeast (SE), southwest (SW), and northwest (NW).

On the map, find Houston, Texas. Use the letters that stand for each direction to answer the following.



What direction is it from Houston to . . .

- a. New Orleans, Louisiana? E
 b. Tulsa, Oklahoma? N
 c. Nashville, Tennessee? NE
 d. Corpus Christi, Texas? SW
 e. Santa Fe, New Mexico? NW