

Name _____

Getting to Know Your Atlas

Part 1

WORLD FACTS

1. Turn to the World Facts on the inside cover of your *Nystrom World Atlas*. Use the information to answer the following questions.
 - a. Which continent takes up 30% of the world's land area? _____
 - b. What is the highest point in South America? _____
 - c. Which ocean is the largest in area? _____
2. Fill in the table below with the two largest urban areas in 1996. How many people are projected to live in these areas in 2015?

Urban Area	Population in 2015

- ▶ 3. How many times bigger in area is the Caspian Sea than Lake Superior?
- _____

CONTENTS

4. Turn to the Table of Contents. This page directs you to the various atlas sections. Draw a line connecting each section below with the page on which it begins.




<u>Atlas Section</u>	<u>Page Number</u>
a. Asia	20
b. Index of Places	72
c. North America	76
d. Middle East	102

THEMATIC MAPS, GRAPHS, AND PHOTOGRAPHS

5. Turn to the page called *In This Atlas*. This page introduces some of the maps and graphs you will find in the atlas. Read the paragraph under each heading. Use the information to fill in the blanks below.
 - a. Physical maps use color to show land elevations and _____.
 - b. Many of the maps include a key to explain their _____.
 - c. The Glossary lists terms used on _____ and _____ and in the text of the atlas.

6. Turn to the inside back cover. There you will find a list of the thematic maps and graphs by topic.
- On what pages is the World Climate map? _____
 - On what page can you find a map of the Ring of Fire region? _____
 - What page shows where oil fields are in the Middle East? _____

LEGEND FOR PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL MAPS

7. Look at the Complete Legend on page 5. Study the map symbols for land and water features. Write what each symbol below represents.
-  _____
 -  _____
 -  _____
8. What color are the names of water features on the maps in this atlas? _____
9. On a political map, what does a small red square stand for?

10. For city labels, what do the sizes of dots and letters show?

MAP PROJECTIONS

11. Now turn to the World Map Projections on pages 98 and 99. Look at the maps and read the information. Complete each sentence below.
- A conformal projection shows true shapes but distorts _____.
 - An equal-area projection shows areas in their true relative sizes, but distorts their _____.
 - Projections that allow some size distortion in order to portray shapes more accurately are called _____ projections.
 - For world map projections, distortion is greatest at the map's _____.
- ▶ 12. Study the shapes of the different map projections. Look at the differences in the longitude and latitude lines. Fill in the blanks to complete the sentences below.
- The map on page 5 is a _____ projection.
 - The map on page 16 is an _____ projection.