

Monday's Map Quiz: Map Projections & Thematic Maps

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- » The **Mercator Projection** is the best map projection to use while traveling because it accurately shows direction.
- » The **Lambert Projection** is the best map projection to use while trying to see the North/South Poles because it accurately shows land area near the poles.
- » The **Goode's Homolosine Projection** is the best map projection to use while comparing the size of landmasses because it accurately shows land size and shape, while interrupting the oceans.
- » The **Robinson Projection** distorts all features of the globe, but only distorts each feature a little bit. Therefore, it turns out to be pretty accurate.
- » The four features of the globe that become distorted when creating a map projection are: distance, direction, size, and shape.
- » The process of **creating a map using points on the globe** is called projection.
- » **Mapmakers** are called cartographers.
- » **Thematic Maps** show only one theme. This helps the viewer to get the most information from the map about a specific topic.
- » The **map's title and key/legend** tell the viewer the theme of the map.
- » Colors, symbols, or dots can be used to show information on a thematic map.
- » A **physical map** shows the earth's physical features, landforms, and bodies of water.
- » A **political map** shows the man-made boundaries of continents, countries, states, and territories. It can also show capital cities of states, territories, and countries.
- » A **climate map** shows the long-term weather patterns of a specific area. **Climographs** show the patterns of precipitation and temperature of a specific place over a specific time.
- » A **population density** map shows the number of people per unit (ex. square mile) within a specific area (ex. city, state, country, continent).
- » A **vegetation map** shows the types of plants growing in a specific area.