Getting to Know Your Atlas

Lesson 1: Reference Skills

WORLD FACTS

1.	Use the World Facts information on the inside cover of your Nystrom World Atlas to answer			
	the following questions.			

a.	Which continent makes up about 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. What are the projected populations for these urban areas in 2015?

Urban Area	Population in 2015	

CONTENTS

3. Turn to the Table of Contents on page 2. This page directs you to the various atlas sections. Draw a line connecting each section below with the page on which it begins.

	Atlas Section	Page Number	
a.	Asia •	• 26	
b.	Index of Places •	• 80	
c.	North America •	• 84	
d.	Middle East •	• 102	
e.	Pacific Rim •	• 110	

d. How many of the world's largest lakes are in North America?

REFERENCE AND THEMATIC MAPS

4.	Use In This At	las on pages 3–5	to complete the	following sentences.
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a.	Places beyond a Land Cover Map's subject area are in a	color.
b.	On a Political Map, the names of countries, states, and large cities are	
c.	The colors on an Elevation Map show land elevations and water	•
d.	I. The thematic maps that are repeated for each continent are Elevation, Annual Rainfal	
	, Land Use, and	





5.	Use the Land Cover Map legend on page 3 to complete the following sentences.			
	a. Cropland is represented by the color			*
b. Glaciers and polar sea ice are represented by the color				
6.	Us	se the Political Map legend on j	page 3 to answer the followir	ng questions.
		What does a small black squa		
b. For city labels, what do the sizes of dots and				
7.	7. Use the Elevation Map legend on page 4 to determine what each symbol below represe Write the description next to the symbol.			
	a.			
		<i>O</i>		
	c.	~~		
MAP P	RO	JECTIONS		
8.	8. Use the Map Projections on pages 106–107 to answer the following questions. Circle the correct answers.a. Which map projection shows true shape but distorts size?			wing questions. Circle the
		conformal projection	equal-area projection	compromise projection
	b. Which map was first published in 1569?			
		Miller Cylindrical	Goode's Homolosine	Mercator
	c.	Which compromise map give	s the impression of having be	een peeled from a globe?
		Gall-Peters	Armadillo	Winkel Tripel
	d.	Which map is a compromise b	petween the Mercator and the	e Mollweide?
		Gall-Peters	Miller Cylindrical	Van der Grinten
THEMA	TIC	INDEX		
9.	Use the Thematic Index of maps and graphs on the inside back cover to find the correct pag numbers for the maps below. Cross out the incorrect page numbers.			
	a.	World Climate map:	pages 12–13	pages 18-19
	b.	Ring of Fire map:	page 102	page 110
	c.	Middle East Oil Fields map:	page 81	page 91
	d.	U.S. Highways map:	page 38	page 48

