

How to describe a map in English ? (Geographical keywords)

To introduce a map:

Identify the map:

The projection: the representation on a plane surface of any part of the surface of the earth.

A world map, planisphere, an atlas map	Un planisphère	A polar projection	Une projection polaire
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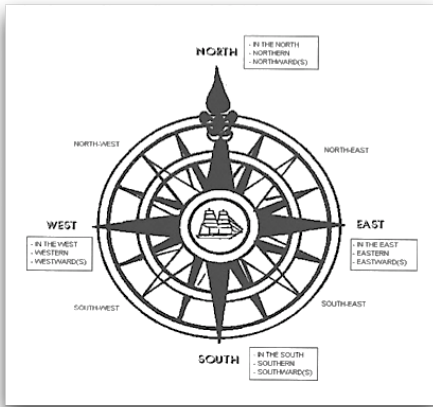
Different kind of maps:

A thematic map Historical /political/geographical map	Une carte thématique	A physical map	Une carte physique
A cartogram, an anamorphosis map	Une carte par anamorphose		
A dot map	Une carte de répartition par points	A shade map	Une carte avec des figurés de surface (hachures, couleurs)
A flow map	Une carte des flux	A sketch map	Un croquis
A blank map	Une carte vierge		

The elements of the map:

The scale: l'échelle	On a local/regional/national/global scale
The key: la légende	

The compass rose : the tools for a description in geography:



-North /East/West/South

- Northwards to (vers le nord)... eastwards, westwards, southwards (Vers le Sud)
- In the North East... in the northern part of...
- From north to south

Runs through
Crosses through
Passes through
Goes through

We can use passive voice:

-Is located north east of.....
- ... Is situated north...

To comment a map:

The map shows...	On the continent / on the coast...	
On a local/ regional/national/global scale, we can see...	We learn that the land / country / continent is inhabited / populated by...	