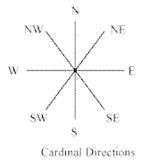
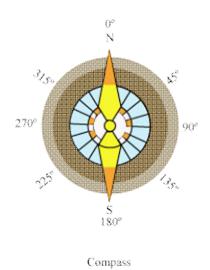
## Chapter 4 Maps

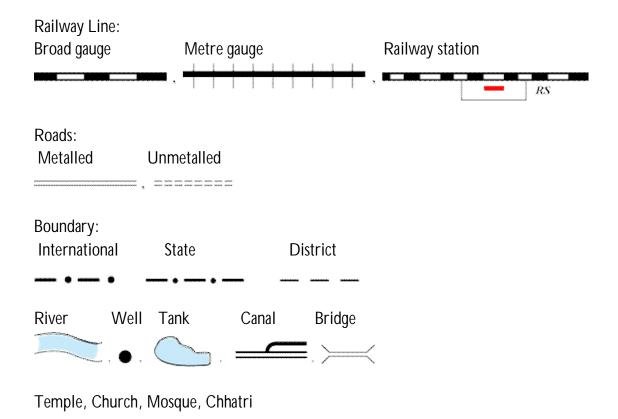
- A representation or drawing of the earth's surface, or a part of it, on a flat surface, according to a scale, is called a map.
- ✤ A collection of maps is called an Atlas.
- The three components of a map are distance, direction and symbol.
- Types of Maps
  - A map which shows natural features of the earth such as rivers, landforms etc. is called a physical map.
  - A map which shows towns, states, countries etc. with their boundaries is called a political map.
  - A map which elaborately describes the specific information is called a thematic map. For example, rainfall map and a map showing distribution of forests.
- Distance
  - A scale is the ratio between the actual distance on the ground and the distance shown on the map.
  - Small scale maps have large ratios and are used to depict large areas.
  - Large scale maps have small ratios and are used to depict small areas.
- Direction
  - The north direction is depicted by an arrow and the letter N at the top-right corner of most maps. It helps in locating other directions.
  - The four major directions East, West, North and South are called cardinal points.
  - North-East (NE), South-East (SE), South-West (SW) and North-West (NW) are called intermediate directions. They help in locating a place more accurately.

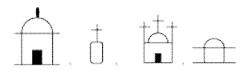


• A compass is an instrument which is used to find directions. It has a magnetic needle which always points in the north-south direction.

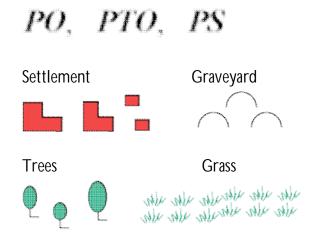


- Symbols
  - Symbols are the universal language of maps.
  - There is an international agreement regarding the use of these symbols which are known as conventional symbols. Most of them are associated with specific colours.





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- Sketch
  - A sketch is a memory and observation based drawing without scale and the map which is drawn on the basis of the sketch is called a sketch map.
  - It is needed to locate a place with respect to other places.
- Plan
  - A plan is a drawing of a small area on a large scale.
  - It is not possible with the large scale map to collect information on every little detail. Therefore, a plan is needed to make the map more specific.