TEXT FEATURES

Features of a Map

A map is a visual representation of a section of land.

A map has several features to help readers interpret information:

- **compass:** shows the directions north, south, east, and west on a map.

- **index:** tells the location of specific places on a map, such as cities and streets.

- **scale:** a measurement showing the distance between two places. For example, the scale may read that one inch = 100 miles on the map.

- **symbols:** pictures to represent the features shown on maps. For example, a map may show a picture of a small tent to show where there is a campground on a map.

- **legend:** lists the symbols used on the map and tells us what each symbol represents.

Features of a Newspaper

What is a caption?

A caption is a short description of a picture.

Captions may inform you of additional details about the photograph.

What is a sidebar?

A sidebar is a story or paragraph that accompanies an article. A sidebar is related to the article in some way.

A sidebar may be found on the side, within, or at the end of an article.
What is fine print?

Fine print is usually associated with advertisements. The fine print of an advertisement is information written in a much smaller font than the rest of the advertisement.

Fine print often includes drawbacks of what is being sold in the advertisement, usually because the advertisers do NOT want you to read this information.

Textbooks

Textbooks are nonfiction books that are written about a particular subject. Textbooks have a table of contents and an index so that you may find particular subject topics easily.

Try This!

On a map, what feature indicates the distance between two cities?

a] compass 

b] scale 

c] legend 

d] symbols

The text beneath a picture is called a ________. 

a] description 

b] sidebar 

c] caption 

d] memo

The sidebar in a newspaper article relates to the ________.

a] main article 

b] heading 

c] picture 

d] caption