



Topographic maps are published by the United States government. The contour lines represent places with the same land elevation. Use this topographic quadrangle map to answer the following questions. Some questions have clues to show you where to find the information on your map.

Do **not** make any marks on these maps. Please help us to keep them neat and clean!

1. When was this map published? (Find the answer here. ) _____

2. On this map, how many centimeters does it take to show 1 km? (Use a ruler.) _____

3. What is the angle between geographic north (GN) and magnetic north (MN)?  _____

4. What is the contour interval from one thin brown line to the next? _____

5. What is the largest lake or pond on the map? _____

How long is it? _____

6. What is the largest town shown on your map? _____

7. What is the highest elevation on this map? Where is it?

8. What is the lowest elevation on this map? Where is it?

9. How high above sea level are you right now? _____

10. Name one road that has been changed since this map was first published? _____

12. Is your own house shown on this map? _____ What is the elevation? _____

13. Where is the steepest hill? _____

14. Which side is steepest? _____

15. Find a place where contour lines cross a stream, making Vs. Do they point upstream or downstream? _____

16. What is the largest stream/river? _____

17. In what direction does it flow? _____

18. A bench mark is brass disk embedded in concrete to show the location of a carefully surveyed control point. They're usually marked "BM".
Where is the closest bench mark to your present location? _____

Answers vary from map to map. You'll need to make upon your own key.

Unit 1 **Tips: The Local Quadrangle**

Difficulty: Mostly easy

Content: Important

Preparations: None

Materials: Local USGS Topographic quadrangle maps (1 per 2-3 students)
Sheet or booklet of topographic USGS map symbols.

Time: 30 - 40 minutes

Suggestions for the Teacher:

1. Try to find these answers yourself before you give the activity to your students.
2. Add or delete questions to take into account special feature on your local map.

Student Intro:

1. Explain that many (?) of the students live and go to school on this map.
2. Encourage students to learn to see these contour maps in 3-D.

Post-Lab: View an aerial photograph to compare with your map:
<http://terraserver.homeadvisor.msn.com>
On-line topographic maps of anywhere in the USA can be viewed at:
<http://www.topozone.com>

Extensions: Ask students to make a contour map of a nearby location.