**LESSON NOTE 2**

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| **REPERSENTATION OF RELIEF**  **Definition of Conventional Signs and Symbols**   * Conventional signs and symbols are **standardized signs** or symbols used in map-making to represent physical and cultural features. * They are understood **universally** and help convey information **clearly and concisely**. * The conventional signs represent the language of the map. They are usually shown at the bottom of all topographical maps where the symbols are found.   **Classification of Conventional Symbols**  Conventional symbols are grouped into:  **A. Physical Features:** Represent natural landforms and relief features:   * Rivers – shown as blue lines * Hills/mountains – indicated with contour lines, hachures, or spot heights * Lakes – shaded blue shapes * Forests – green tree symbols   **B. Cultural (Man-Made) Features:** Represent human-made structures and developments:   * Roads – black or red lines * Railway – black lines with cross-marks * Schools – small rectangles or squares with an “S” * Churches – cross symbol * Bridges – double lines across a river * Settlements – cluster of dots or small squares   **Importance of Conventional Signs and Symbols**   * Provide a **uniform way** of representing data * Allow easy and quick **interpretation** of maps * Help to **save space** by replacing lengthy text with simple icons * Ensure maps are **understood globally**, regardless of language   **LIST OF RELIEF/ LANSDFORMS THAT CAN BE REPERSENTED ON A MAP**   1. Valleys: On maps, valleys are typically represented as V-shaped lines with contour lines on either side. These lines show the low-lying areas between two higher elevations. The closer these contour lines are, the steeper the valley.      1. Spur passes: Spur passes are depicted as small gaps or notches in the contour lines that represent ridges or spurs. These gaps indicate a lower point where one can cross over a ridge or spur. Spur passes are crucial for identifying suitable routes through hilly or mountainous terrain.      1. Knolls: knolls are small rounded hills often shown as circular or oval shapes on maps with contour lines concentrically encircling them. The elevation of a knoll is usually higher in the center and gradually decreases toward the outer lines.      1. Hills: are typically represented by lines that form concentric circles, with each circle indicating a different elevation level. The center of the circles corresponds to the highest point of the hill and elevation decreases as you move outward 2. Escarpment: a steep slope or long cliff that separates two relatively level areas. It is shown as a line with one side showing a sudden in elevation, usually marked by contour lines that are close together on one side and farther apart on the other.      1. Plateau: this is a flat elevated area that is often surrounded by steep slopes. On maps it is represented by contour lines that form a series of roughly parallel lines at a consistent elevation indicating the flat, high terrain.      1. Ridge: a long narrow elevation along the top a hill or mountain. Represented with contour lines on either sides showing high grounds with slopes descending on each side. 2. Cliff: a vertical rock face that drops abruptly from higher ground to lower ground and it is represented as short, parallel lines perpendicular to contour lines on maps.   HOME FUN  Create your own box or table containing 10 conventional signs and symbols based on the classification given in the above lesson. |