
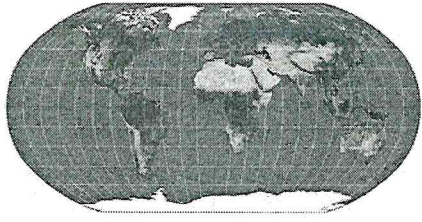
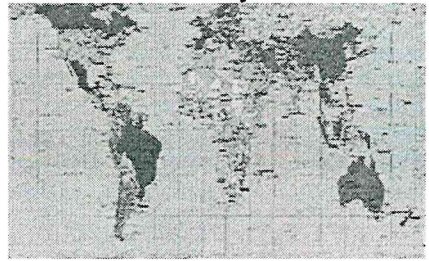


refer to these inaccuracies as distortions. Some different aspects of a map that may be distorted include distance, direction, or the size and shape of land and water bodies. What distortions do you see in the maps below?

<p>Mercator Projection</p>  <p>Source: http://www.public.asu.edu/~aarios/sourcebank/maps/page10.html</p>	<p>Robinson Projection</p>  <p>Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robinson_projection</p>	<p>Peters Projection</p>  <p>Source: http://www.petersmap.com/</p>
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Globes

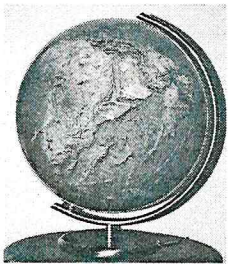


Image Source:
http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:EO_Globe.jpg

Like the earth, a globe is a round three dimensional object. As such, it is easier to represent the earth on a globe without distortions. A spherical, three-dimensional representation of Earth is helpful because it will not have the distortions that a flat, two-dimensional map has.

Although globes may be a better way to represent the earth, they are not always convenient. You probably would never pack a globe in your car on a family vacation. Globes do not fit nicely in a vehicle's glove compartment. Another problem with globes is that they represent a large a very large area. As a result, the spatial scale is small and it is difficult to see details. Globes typically will not contain the details necessary for most travelers, such as street names or towns.

Graphs, Charts, and Diagrams

Oftentimes, the information helpful to a geographer isn't available on a map or a globe. Instead this data may be represented in another format, such as a graph. Useful types of graphs might include line graphs, pie graphs, and bar graphs. Sometimes, the information might be extensive enough that the best way to represent it is in the form of a chart. Other information may be so complex that a