Mapping Concepts in the American Civil War

Map 1

I. Components of Maps:

1. Read the text which follows, and use it to complete the table at the bottom of the page.

*The Title Tells What a Map Shows.* A map's title gives us our first clue about its content. The title usually describes the area shown on the map and identifies the map's main topic. The topic might be gold or silver mining, politics, agriculture, or even the night sky. Often the title also includes a date. The date tells us that the map shows the locations of places at a certain time.
• **A Compass Rose Shows Directions on a Map.** Have you ever used a magnetic compass to find your way when you were lost and in a strange place? If so, you know that the needle of a compass always points in a northward direction – towards the North Pole. Knowing where North is can help you determine which way to go.

• **A Key, or Legend, Identifies Symbols on a Map.** A compass rose is one of many symbols used to show information on a map. Some symbols incorporate color to show features. Blue lines, for example, are symbols that often indicate the locations of rivers; lakes and oceans are often colored blue as well. Other symbols use shapes to show information. A bold star is a common symbol for the capital of a state or country, while miniature airplanes are often used to show the locations of airports.

The symbols used on a map are usually identified in a box known as the map legend or map key. The key lists each symbol and explains what it shows on the map.

• **A Map Scale Shows How Distance is Measured on a Map.** Different maps show different sized areas. On a map of the whole world one inch could represent a hundred miles, while on a map of your school one inch could be as little as ten feet. The scale usually looks like a line with a distance marked on it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key (legend)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scale</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compass</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Once you have determined a definition for each map component, turn to page 1 of this packet. Find where each of the four components is on the map, and label it appropriately.

3. How does Map Scale affect the details which are present in a map?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Large-Scale Items:</th>
<th>Small-Scale Items:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>3.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## II. Types of Maps:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Map</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>List 2 examples on your own, then find 2 examples from a partner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Climate Maps              | Provide information about the _________ and precipitation (_____ and _____) of a region. | • ____________________  
                            |                                                                           | • ____________________  
                            |                                                                           | • ____________________  
                            |                                                                           | • ____________________  |
| Physical Maps             | Provide information about the _________ (shape of the earth’s surface) and physical features in a region. May include ________, rivers, __________, etc. One special type of physical map is a __________, which shows elevation (the height of the ground). This is useful to show contours, like hills and __________. | • ____________________  
                            |                                                                           | • ____________________  
                            |                                                                           | • ____________________  
                            |                                                                           | • ____________________  |
| Political Maps            | Provide information about man-made political _________ in a region. May include countries, capitals, states, counties, and cities. | • ____________________  
                            |                                                                           | • ____________________  
                            |                                                                           | • ____________________  
                            |                                                                           | • ____________________  |
| Special Purpose and Thematic Maps | Some examples...  
• Road Maps  
• Economic/Resource Maps  
• Spread of disease  
• Water Usage | What are some other things one could map, including information and location? | • ____________________  
                            |                                                                           | • ____________________  
                            |                                                                           | • ____________________  
                            |                                                                           | • ____________________  
                            |                                                                           | • ____________________  |
III. Application: The Maps of the Civil War

In the civil war, both sides relied on cartographers (people who make maps) to plan and win battles and strategy. As you answer these questions imagine you are one of these cartographers, sent forwards to provide your general with crucial information for the conflicts ahead.

Look at the two maps on the projector (also at the end of the packet). These are both maps of the area around Fort Henry, located in Tennessee, prepared by the Union army. On February 5th, 1862, Ulysses S. Grant was approaching Fort Henry by boat on the Tennessee river with many troops. It was a rainy day, and it had been a rainy February – in fact, the river was flooding and the ground of the whole river valley had turned to mud. Grant would go on to victory on the Tennessee, but first he had to take Fort Henry.

4. How does the map scale change between the two maps? _______________

5. Which map is larger scale? _______________

6. Why would it be important for Ulysses S. Grant to have both of these maps?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

7. Look carefully at Map A. Using the types of maps we have discussed, what type of map is this? _______________

8. Ulysses S. Grant would, in his attack, first need to plan where his ships would land and his infantry would get out to attack the fort. Look carefully at Map A, and decide a spot you would recommend Grant deploy his troops at. Mark this spot with an X. Then explain why you would choose that spot:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

9. Notice that on Map A the relatively small Buckwater River has been included (directly east of the compass rose), but that houses on the farms along the road have not been. Why do you think the cartographer who assembled this map chose to include the Buckwater. but not houses?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

10. Grant would after landing his troops, have had to move his troops up to attack the fort. Continue examining Map A. What are some landmarks or physical features visible on the map that Grant should be aware of as he plans his assault? Identify at least 3.

   i.
   ii.
   iii.

11. Considering the landmarks you have identified in question #10, draw a line from your X and ending at Fort Henry representing how you think General Grant may have marched his troops.
12. Now look to Map B. What sort of information is included in this map?

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

13. How would that information matter to fighting a battle?

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

IV. Summary Questions
Consider the maps of the area around Fort Henry. How does topography impact warfare? Why would you rather fight a battle with these map than without them?

What kind of decision-making is involved in creating a map? What kinds of decisions did the cartographers who made maps A and B have to make in preparing them?