

Experiment: Interpreting Topographic Maps (E. Science 9-6-3d)

Purpose: To interpret topographic maps.

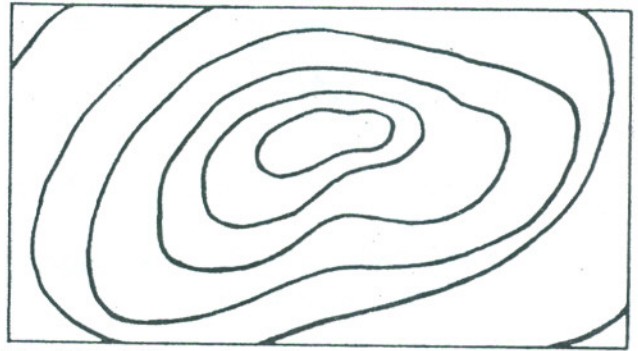
Materials: brain pencil

Methods: **Map A**



Scale: 1:24 000 Contour interval: 50 feet

Map B



Scale: 1:62 500 Contour interval: 20 feet

1. The 1 on each map scale represents 1 inch. What unit does 24 000 represent?
2. Which of the two maps is the larger scale map? Explain
3. Which of the hills shown covers a larger area?
4. How do you know (number 3) is the larger area?
5. Which of the hills is steeper?
6. How do you know (number 5) is the steeper?
7. Write the contour interval for each of the areas shown below in the space provided.



FIGURE 7

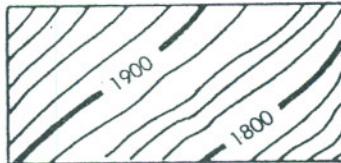
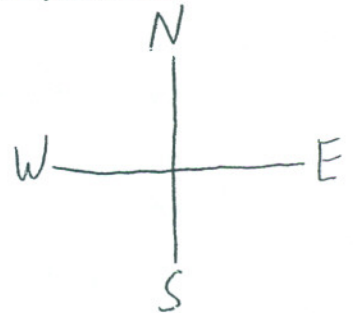


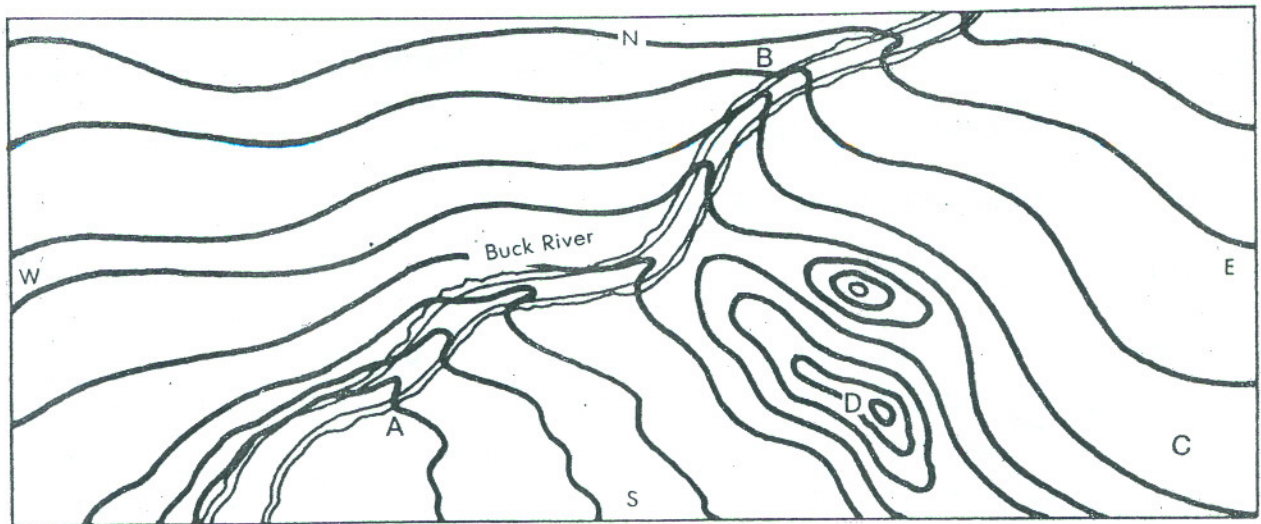
FIGURE 8



FIGURE 9



8. In which direction does the land slope down in each of the Figures of question 7?
- Figure 7 _____ m
- Figure 8 _____ m
- Figure 9 _____ m



Use the following diagram for questions 9 - 17.

Contour interval: 500 cm

Scale: 1 cm = 10 000 cm

9. In which direction does the Buck River flow?
Explain how you know?

10. Measure the width (on the map) of the Buck River in centimeters?

11. Since the scale of this topographic map is 1 cm = 10 000 cm, what is the actual approximate width of the Buck River?

12. What is the change in elevation (in cm) from point A to point B?

13. In what general area is the elevation highest on this map?

14. What general area of the map has the lowest elevation?

15. What is the total decrease in elevation along the course of the Buck River on this map?

16. In which direction does the land slope down in the figure?

17. Which point on the map is on a steeper slope, C or D?

18. The diagram to the right represents an incomplete contour map of an area. It includes measured heights at various locations, along with some contour lines. Use your knowledge of contour lines and the information given to draw in the missing contour lines.

