

Reading for Fun and Understanding

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National PASS Center Geneseo Migrant Center 3 Mt. Morris-Leicester Road Leicester, NY 14418 (585) 658-7960 (585) 658-7969 (fax) www.migrant.net/pass

Authors: Kate Warner

Linda Shanks Sally Fox Valerie Putney

Editor: Sally Fox

Proofer: Donna Katter

Formatting: Eva McKendry

Kate Warner

Graphics: Eva McKendry

Kate Warner Linda Shanks Sally Fox Valerie Putney

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Lesson

Functional Texts

Words to know:

- √ functional text
- ✓ "how to" manual
- ✓ recipe
- √ map scale
- √ map legend

an you think of some texts that help you in your everyday life?

A *functional text* is a text that is used to gain information in order to complete a task. It is called this because it helps you *function* on a daily basis. For example, when you need to call someone but you don't have their number, you go to the phonebook and look it up. A *phone book* is a functional text because it is used to find out information that helps complete a task. Even the list of contacts in your cell phone is a functional text! Have you ever tried to put together a piece of equipment, furniture, or even a toy by reading the instructions that came with it? Were the instructions helpful?

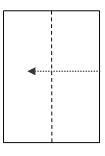
When reading instructions on "How to" do something, each step is written in the order in which it should take place. It is important to follow the steps in the order they are written. Each step relies on the step before it. For example, if you are trying to pop popcorn in the microwave, the first step is to remove the plastic wrapper. If you do not remove the wrapper before following the rest of the steps, the plastic wrapper will melt and could start on fire inside the microwave.

"How To" Manuals

Here is an example of "How to" instructions that require you to follow each step in the correct order. Give it a try! Follow the directions on "How to Make a Paper Airplane" to make your own paper airplane.

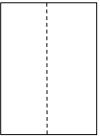
You will need:

One sheet of 8 ½ x 11 inch paper



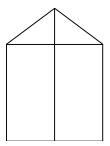
Step 1:

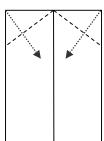
Fold the width of a rectangular piece of paper in half so that the shortest edges of the paper are folded. Then open the paper showing the crease down the center.

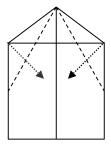


Step 2:

Fold each of the top corners in so that they are touching the center crease.

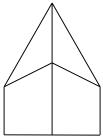


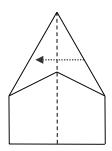




Step 3:

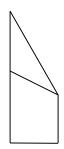
Fold each of the new top corners in so that they are also touching the center crease.

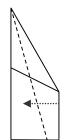




Step 4:

Fold the entire piece of paper in half along the center crease.





Step 5:

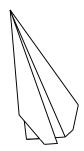
Fold the middle corner in so that it lines up with the straight edge of the opposite side of the piece of paper.

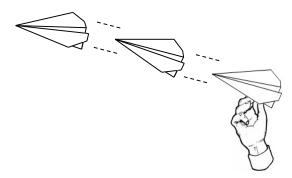




Step 6:

Turn the paper so that the center opening is facing up. Hold on to the bottom fold of the paper. Toss the paper, point first, into the air and watch your paper airplane fly!





Recipes

Recipes are also functional texts. Much like "How to" instructions, recipes are written in a certain order. When following a recipe, it is important to read the ingredients and tools you will need before you begin cooking. It is also important to read through the directions before you begin cooking in case there are special instructions. Some recipes call for more than one thing to happen at once. Read through the chocolate chip cookie recipe below and answer the questions that follow. If you have the ingredients and other supplies, try baking some cookies for yourself!

Title: Chocolate Chip Cookie Recipe

Ingredients:	You will need:
¾ cup sugar	1 mixing bowl
¾ cup packed brown sugar	1 wooden spoon
1 cup butter, softened	1 table spoon
2 large eggs, beaten	1 cookie sheet
1 teaspoon vanilla extract	1 spatula
2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour	1 conventional oven
1 teaspoon baking soda	1-2 oven mitts
¾ teaspoon salt	measuring cups
2 cups semisweet chocolate chips	non-stick spray or
	vegetable oil

Directions:

- (1) Preheat oven to 375° (degrees).
- (2) Grease a cookie sheet with non-stick cooking spray or vegetable shortening and set aside.
 - * Cookies will stick to cookie sheet if it is not greased.
- (3) In a large bowl, mix together by hand sugar, brown sugar, butter, vanilla, and eggs. Stir in flour, baking soda, and salt until mixed well and the dough is stiff.
- (4) Next, stir in chocolate chips. (Make sure to have a sturdy spoon; the dough should be very stiff.) Mix until the chocolate chips are evenly distributed throughout the dough.
- (5) Using a tablespoon, scoop rounded spoonfuls, making sure they are all about the same size, and place approximately two inches apart on greased cookie sheet.
 - * Cookies will spread as they cook. If the cookies are too close together they will get stuck together.
- **(6)** Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until light brown.
 - * The chocolate chips will be melted and soft. The longer you bake the cookies, the crispier they will become.
- (7) Remove cookies from oven and let cool on the cookie sheet. Use a flat spatula to remove the cookies from the cookie sheet and onto a plate.
 - * Make sure to use oven mitts or your hands will get burned.

Based on the recipe you just read, answer the following questions.

Why is it important to grease the cookie sheet before baking?
How many inches apart should the cookies be placed on the cookie sheet? Explain why this is important.
What can you use to prevent your hands from getting burned on the cookie sheet?

Do you have a favorite recipe? Where did the recipe come from? Is it an old family recipe? Did your friend pass it on to you? Did you find it in a magazine or on the Internet? Did you create it yourself?

4. Write down your favorite recipe on the next page. Make sure you include ingredients, supplies, and any special instructions or warnings.

Title:			
Ingredients:		You will need:	
Instructions:			

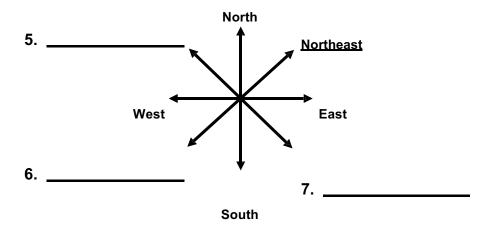
Maps

Another functional text you might use often is a *map*. A road map is an map of the roads in a region. One of the main things that a map shows us is direction. There are four main directions—*north*, *south*, *east*, and *west*. Maps usually have a direction finder, or compass rose, to show you which direction is north, south, east, and west. The direction finder on most maps looks something like the figure at right. Often times north is at the top, but not always. That is why it is important to pay attention to the direction finder when you are reading a map.

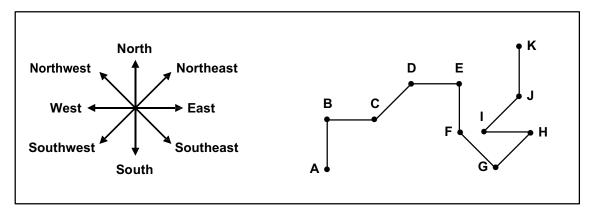
If you do not see a direction finder on a map, you can assume that north is at the top of the map.

Places are not always directly north, south, east, or west of each other. There are places in-between. For example, *northeast* is halfway between *north* and *east*. Use the word bank to complete the diagram below. The first one is done for you.



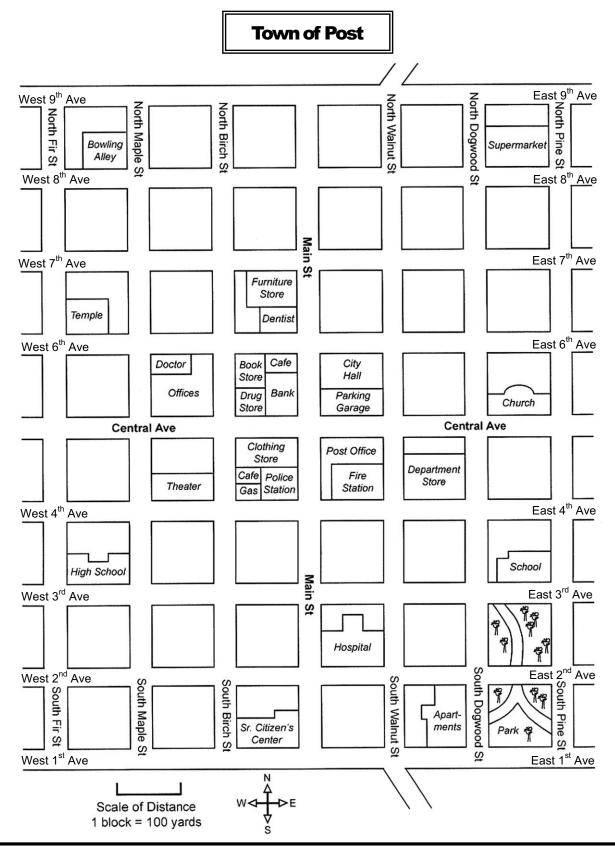


Follow the zigzag lines below to figure out the direction you are traveling as you go from one location to the next. Use the compass rose. Write the correct directions in the blanks that follow. The first has been done for you.



- 8. To get from A to B, travel ______
- **9.** To get from B to C, travel
- **10.** To get from C to D, travel
- **11.** To get from D to E, travel ______.
- **12.** To get from E to F, travel
- **13.** To get from F to G, travel
- **14.** To get from G to H, travel ______.
- 15. To get from H to I, travel
- **16.** To get from I to J, travel
- **17.** To get from J to K, travel ______.

On the next page is a map of the imaginary town of Post. It shows all the main roads of the town. Notice the names of the roads. In Post, roads run north and south of Central Avenue, and east and west of Main Street. Find Central Avenue on the map. You will notice that it runs east and west through the center of Post. Next, find Main Street. It also runs through the center of Post, however, it runs north and south.



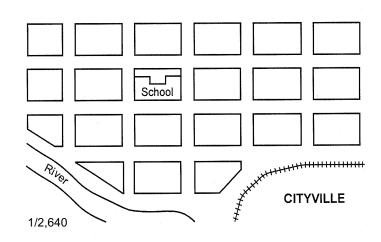
Look at the map of Post again. Notice how the streets are named and numbered east and west of Main Street. Next, notice how the streets are named and numbered north and south of Central Avenue.

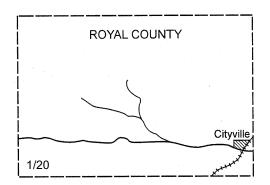
Use the map of Post to answer the following questions.

18.	What is the name of the street that is one block east of Main Street?
19.	Name the business that is on the corner of West 4 th Ave. and South Maple St.
20.	Starting on South Maple St. and West 1 st Ave., what is the fastest way to get to the hospital? Make sure you indicate which direction you should travel on each street.

Another useful tool that maps have is a scale. A scale tells the map reader the actual distance being shown in the map. For example, the scale on the map of Post tells us that one block shown on the map is equal to 100 yards in reality. There are three different kinds of map scales. A **stated scale** is given in words like "one inch equals 100 feet." A **representative fraction** is stated like "1/1200." It means one inch equals 1200 miles on Earth. A **graphic scale** uses a line drawn in the legend. On a graphic scale, distances are marked on a line in miles and/or kilometers. Look back at the map of Post. What type of scale do you see?

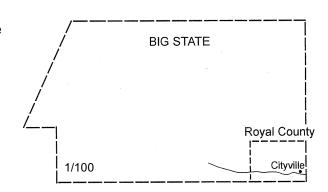
A map may have a small scale or a large scale. A large-scale map shows much detail, while a small-scale map does not. For example, the map at right is a large-scale map of Cityville. The scale is 1/2,640, or one inch to one-half mile. You can see streets, a river, a railroad, and a school on the map.





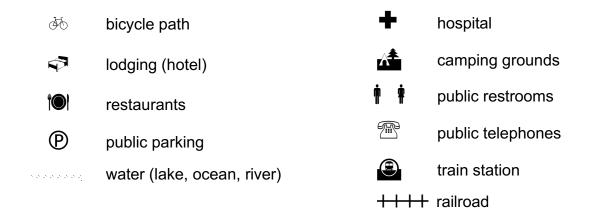
The map at left is a **small-scale map** of Royal County, in which Cityville is located. The scale on this map is 1/20, or one inch equals 20 miles. You cannot see any details of Cityville.

The map at right is a map of the state in which Royal County is located. On this map, one inch equals 100 miles. Cityville is now just a dot on the map. Even Royal County is small. Imagine how Cityville would look on a map of the world!



The scale is chosen to fit the purpose of the map. A large-scale map shows only a small area in large size. More detail can be shown. To show the world, you must use a very small scale. You can show only a few details. Remember it this way: large detail means large scale, while small detail means small scale.

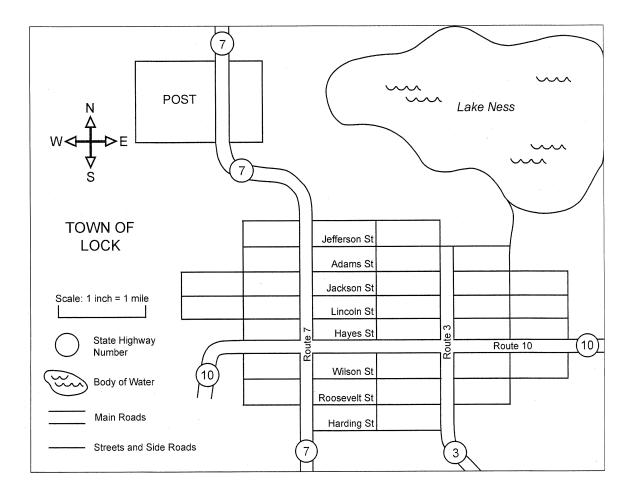
A map's **legend**, or key, is a very helpful tool. It is usually placed in one corner of the map. The legend will explain all the symbols used on the map. For example, if you are looking at a large-scale map, you might see ★, which is the symbol for an airport. To show many things about a place, a map must use many different symbols. On the legend of a map, you will probably see symbols that you already know, as well as new ones. Here are some common symbols you might see on maps:



Look back at the map of Post. Notice that the whole map shows the town of Post. It gives a close-up view of Post's streets, avenues, and buildings. There is nothing on the map except Post.

Now look at the map on the following page. This map shows not only Post but also the area around it. Located in this area is the much larger town of Lock. In fact, Lock takes up most of the space on this map.

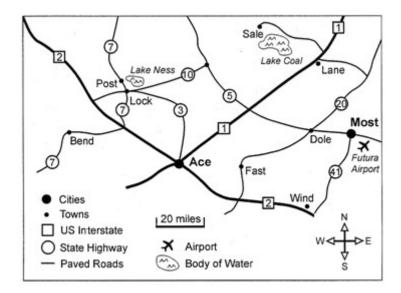
Because the map shows two different-sized towns—one large and one much smaller—the towns look much different. Lock, the large town, covers a much larger section than does the smaller town of Post. We can use this type of map to compare the sizes of the two towns.



Use the map of Lock to answer the questions below.

- **21.** Name all of the main roads in Lock.
- 22. What is the name of the body of water in Lock?
- 23. What street is north of Hayes Street?
- 24. What state highway runs east to west?

Below is a smaller map of the state of Futura, which covers a large area. As you can see, the towns of Post and Lock are located in Futura. On the previous map, Post and Lock were a big part of a small area. They were shown by large squares. On the map of Futura, the towns are a small part of a large area. They are shown by dots.

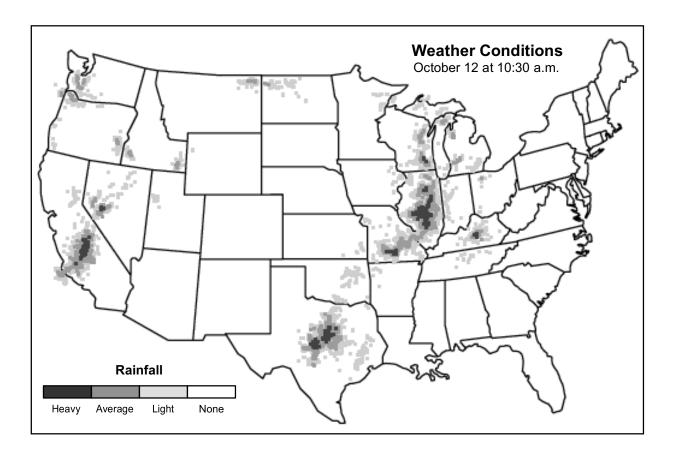


Answer the questions below using the map of Futura.

- 25. Name the two cities in Futura.
- 26. In what city is the Futura Airport located?
- 27. Which US Interstate would you take on your way from Lake Ness to Lake Coal?

Weather Maps

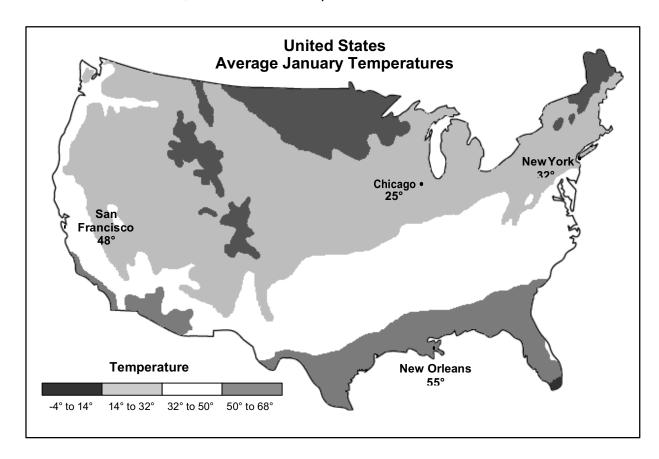
A *rainfall map* shows the average amount of rain that falls in an area in a certain period of time. The amount of rain is shown in inches. Usually the map shows rainfall for a whole year. However, rainfall maps can show the amount of rain that falls over shorter periods of time, such as a season or month. You will notice that the map below has a legend. The legend tells us the darker the color on the map, the heavier the rainfall.



Answer the questions based on the Rainfall Map above.

- 28. How much rain fell on the northeast states?
- **29.** Describe the rainfall in the southwest states.

A *temperature map* shows the average temperature in an area for a certain weather season or period of time. The map below shows the average temperatures in the United States for the month of January. Much like the rainfall map, the legend tells us the darker the color, the colder the temperature.

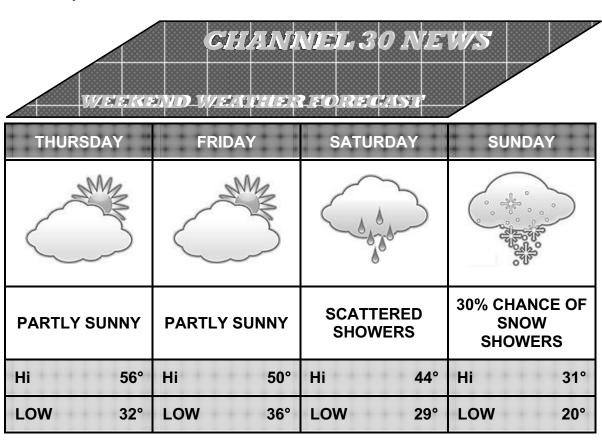


Answer the questions based on the Temperature Map above.

- **30.** What is the temperature in Chicago?
- **31.** List the temperature range for the northeast tip of the country.
- **32.** Which two states listed are in the same temperature range?

Another way to find out the weather is to read a **weather forecast chart**. The weather forecast tells what the weather will be on certain days of the current or upcoming week. You can find a weather forecast chart in the newspaper, on the Internet, or on television during the weather segment.

Example:



In this example, you can see that on Thursday it will be partly sunny with a high temperature of 56 degrees and a low temperature of 32 degrees. Each column tells the weather for a specific day. The weather pattern for the weekend shows a cold front coming through starting with sunshine and mild temperatures and ending with cold temperatures and snow.

Use the weather forecast on the next page to answer the questions.

CHANNIEL 30 NEWS DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY	
The state of the s			THE SECOND SECON		(My		
SNOWY MIX		SNOW SHOWERS 1-2 INCHES		PARTLY SUNNY		AFTERNOON RAIN SHOWERS	
Hi	39°	Hi	33°	Hi	35°	Hi	38°
LOW	27°	LOW	25°	LOW	29°	LOW	20°

- 33. What is the forecast for Monday?
- 34. How much snow is expected to fall on Tuesday?
- 35. Should you pack an umbrella on Thursday? _____
- **36.** Which day will have the warmest temperature?
- 37. Which day will have the coldest temperature?
- **38.** Based on the chart, what does a snowy mix mean?
- **39.** Pretend you are a weather forecaster on the television news. Write a script of how you would present this forecast to the viewers.

Notes:

End of Lesson 4