

Asia Map Clues

Use borders, water, landforms, and direction words to locate key countries.

SS7G9.b "Locate on a world and regional political-physical map the countries of China, India, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, and Vietnam."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each appearance of the six country names. Circle words or phrases that give a location clue, such as a direction, border, water body, or landform.

Finding Countries in Asia

- ① Political maps show country borders and names. Physical maps show landforms and water, which help a reader explain location. In Asia, China lies east of India. China is a large country in eastern Asia, with Mongolia to its north and the Pacific Ocean along much of its eastern coast. India forms a peninsula in southern Asia. The Indian Ocean lies south of India, while the Himalayas rise along much of its northern border. These clues help distinguish China from India on either kind of map.
- ② Farther northeast, the Korean Peninsula reaches toward Japan. North Korea occupies the peninsula's northern half, and South Korea occupies its southern half. The two countries share a border. Japan is an island country east of the Korean Peninsula, across the Sea of Japan, also called the East Sea. On a political map, the border separates North Korea and South Korea. On a physical map, the peninsula and nearby sea help you find them. Japan's islands form an arc in the Pacific Ocean east of mainland Asia.
- ③ Vietnam lies on the eastern side of mainland Southeast Asia. Its long, narrow shape follows the coast of the South China Sea. China is north of Vietnam, and Laos and Cambodia are west of it. Vietnam is south of China and west of the South China Sea. When you use a regional political-physical map, first find a familiar water body or landform. Then use borders, coastlines, and direction words to locate the six countries: China, India, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, and Vietnam.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which country would you locate east of India?

2 Name the two countries on the Korean Peninsula. Include which one is in the northern half and which one is in the southern half.

3 Which country is east of the Korean Peninsula across the Sea of Japan?

4 Where is Vietnam located in relation to China and the South China Sea?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write three directions that would help a partner locate India, Japan, and Vietnam on a regional political-physical map. Use at least one water body, landform, border, or direction word in each sentence.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each appearance of the six country names. Circle words or phrases that give a location clue, such as a direction, border, water body, or landform. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which country would you locate east of India?	China.
2	Name the two countries on the Korean Peninsula. Include which one is in the northern half and which one is in the southern half.	North Korea is in the northern half of the Korean Peninsula, and South Korea is in the southern half.
3	Which country is east of the Korean Peninsula across the Sea of Japan?	Japan.
4	Where is Vietnam located in relation to China and the South China Sea?	Vietnam is south of China and west of the South China Sea.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Find the Indian Ocean, then look north to locate India on a peninsula in southern Asia. Find the Korean Peninsula and move east across the Sea of Japan to locate Japan. Find China, then move south and look west of the South China Sea to locate Vietnam.

Accept equivalent accurate location language, including east, west, north, south, peninsula, coast, border, and named water bodies. For the open response, check that all three countries are correctly located using passage-based clues.