

Lines and Labels

Read how political maps show New York State.

4.1b "New York State can be represented using a political map that shows cities, capitals, and boundaries."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every city name. Circle Albany and number the seven places that share a boundary with New York, so you can spot the features a political map shows.

Reading a Political Map

- ① A political map helps people see places that are governed by states or cities. On a political map of New York State, a dark line can show the state boundary. Labels name important places. The map can also show New York State inside the United States. This type of map focuses on cities, capitals, and borders, rather than on mountains, rivers, or weather.
- ② New York's capital is Albany, a city in the eastern part of the state. A political map marks Albany as the capital because it is where New York State government meets. Other large New York cities include New York City, Buffalo, Yonkers, Rochester, and Syracuse. A map label lets a reader tell one city from another and find each city's location.
- ③ Political maps also help readers study New York's neighbors. New York shares land boundaries with Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont. It also shares international boundaries with the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec. Boundary lines separate one place from another. By reading labels and boundary lines together, a student can explain which places are in New York and which places are outside it.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What three kinds of features does a political map of New York State focus on?

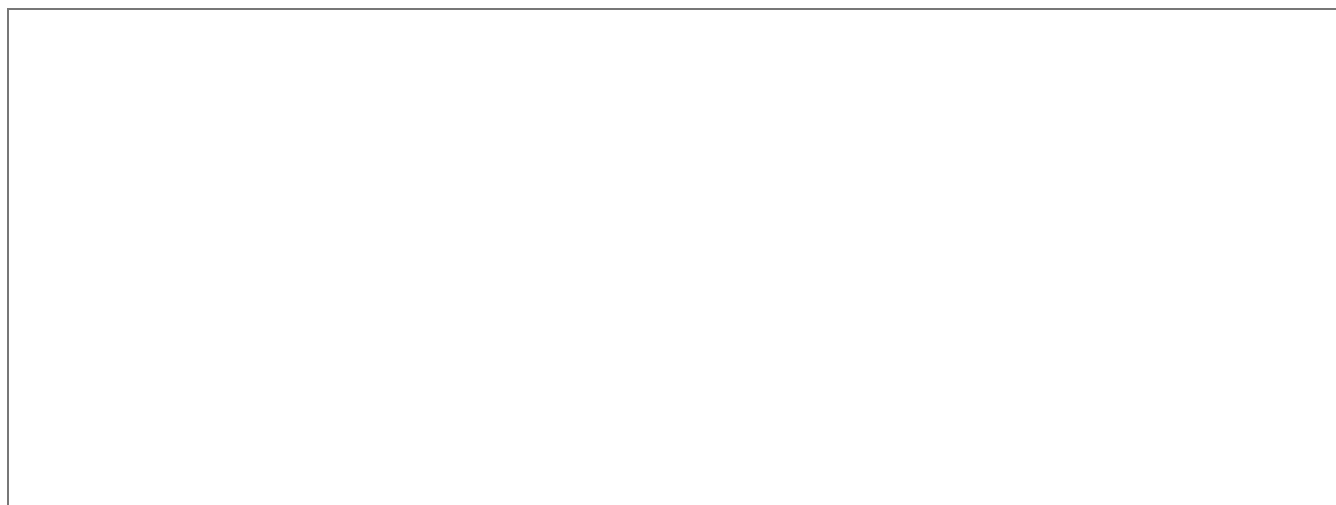
2 Why would Albany have a special label on a political map of New York State?

3 Name the five states that share land boundaries with New York.

4 How do labels and boundary lines help a map reader tell whether a place is in New York or outside New York?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

In the box, draw a simple political map of New York State. Show a boundary line, mark Albany as the capital, label three other cities from the passage, and label two places across New York's boundaries. Include a key for your symbols.



PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline every city name. Circle Albany and number the seven places that share a boundary with New York, so you can spot the features a political map shows. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What three kinds of features does a political map of New York State focus on?	Cities, capitals, and borders or boundaries.
2	Why would Albany have a special label on a political map of New York State?	Albany is the capital of New York State, where the state government meets.
3	Name the five states that share land boundaries with New York.	Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont.
4	How do labels and boundary lines help a map reader tell whether a place is in New York or outside New York?	Labels name places, and boundary lines separate New York from neighboring places.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A titled sketch of New York State has a boundary line, a star labeled Albany in the eastern part, and dots labeled New York City, Buffalo, and Syracuse. Pennsylvania and Vermont are labeled across boundaries. The key says, "star = capital" and "dot = city."

Accept the stated political-map features and any three of the five cities named in the passage. For the drawing, check for a title or clear New York label, a boundary, Albany identified as capital, city labels, two neighboring places, and a usable key.