

Map Word Detectives

Use different reference materials to uncover what words tell you.

8.RV.1.G “Use general and specialized word-reference materials, print and digital, to determine pronunciation, etymology, derivations, and parts of speech.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each reference material named in the passage. Number 1 through 4 beside details about pronunciation, word history, related word forms, and parts of speech.

Labels for a Map Display

- ① At Harbor View Museum, Maya prepared labels for a display about early maps. She paused at the word cartography, the study and making of maps. A general dictionary gave the pronunciation kar-TOG-ruh-fee and labeled the word a noun. The entry also listed cartographic as an adjective. Maya wrote both forms on her planning card because a label might describe a cartographic method or name cartography as a field of study for visitors in the display.
- ② Next, Maya opened an online etymology dictionary. It traced cartography to French cartographie, formed from carte, meaning “map,” and the Greek element -graphia, meaning “writing” or “recording.” That history helped her see why cartographer means a person who makes maps. The dictionary showed that cartographer is a noun and cartographers is its plural form. Maya checked a second source before adding the origin note, since word histories can be complex and sources sometimes give different details about borrowed words.
- ③ Finally, Maya used a specialized geographic-information glossary to check scale. In everyday speech, scale can mean a series of musical notes or a device for weighing. In mapping, scale is a noun that compares a distance on a map with the matching distance on Earth. The glossary used the phrase representative fraction, such as 1:24,000. Maya chose this specialized source because its definition fit the map label better than a general dictionary definition that could provide several unrelated meanings.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

- 1 Which reference material gave Maya the pronunciation of cartography? Write the pronunciation shown in the passage.

- 2 According to the etymology dictionary, what two language parts helped form cartography, and what does each part mean?

- 3 What related forms of cartography does the passage give? Include the part of speech for each form.

- 4 Why did Maya use a specialized geographic-information glossary for scale instead of relying on a general dictionary? Include the part of speech of scale in mapping.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a school-related word that does not appear in the passage. Use a general dictionary and one specialized reference material, then write exactly three sentences that name your sources and give the word's pronunciation, etymology, a related form, and parts of speech.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle each reference material named in the passage. Number 1 through 4 beside details about pronunciation, word history, related word forms, and parts of speech. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which reference material gave Maya the pronunciation of cartography? Write the pronunciation shown in the passage.	A general dictionary; kar-TOG-ruh-fee.
2	According to the etymology dictionary, what two language parts helped form cartography, and what does each part mean?	French carte means “map,” and Greek -graphia means “writing” or “recording.”
3	What related forms of cartography does the passage give? Include the part of speech for each form.	Cartographic is an adjective. Cartographer is a noun, and cartographers is its plural form.
4	Why did Maya use a specialized geographic-information glossary for scale instead of relying on a general dictionary? Include the part of speech of scale in mapping.	The specialized glossary gave the map-specific meaning, while a general dictionary could give unrelated meanings. In mapping, scale is a noun.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I checked Merriam-Webster Dictionary for geology, pronounced jee-OL-uh-jee, a noun. Its related forms include geologic, an adjective, and geologist, a noun for a person who studies Earth. The Online Etymology Dictionary traces geology to Greek geo, meaning “earth,” plus -logia, meaning “study.”

Accept accurate pronunciations written with a dictionary key, IPA, or a clear respelling. For Part 3, accept different appropriate school-related words if the student names both sources and correctly includes all four required word details.