

Maps and distances

Look at the map on page 9 of the student book.

Answer these questions about the map.

1. Use a ruler to find the distance in a straight line from Giza to the Valley of the Kings.



2. Use a ruler to find the distance in a straight line from the Valley of the Kings to Thebes.



3. Use a ruler to find a distance in a straight line from Cairo to the coast in a direction towards the north (towards the top of the page).



4. Use a ruler to find a distance in a straight line from the furthest westerly point of the delta (on the left) to the furthest easterly point (on the right).




5. How could you measure the length of the River Nile?




6. How long is the River Nile according to your method of measurement?



Answer these questions using a map of the United Kingdom.

7. How far is the place where you live from the coast? 

8. How far is the place where you live from London? 

Use a map of the world to answer this question.

9. How far is the place where you live from Cairo? 

Maps and distances

Age range

- Years 5/6 (SP6/7).

Resources

Copies of the worksheet. A ruler, a calculator, a piece of string or thread (which bends easily) about 32 cm long, a map of the United Kingdom, a map of the world with Cairo marked on it.

Using the worksheet

The purpose of this activity is to help the students realise the size of Egypt and to compare distances in Egypt with their own country and surroundings. It also helps them to find out how to use a scale on a map.

The answers to the questions (with working in brackets) are:

1. 600 km ($10.5/3.5 \times 200$).
2. 28.5 km ($0.5/3.5 \times 200$).
3. 171 km ($3/3.5 \times 200$).
4. 285 km ($5/3.5 \times 200$).
5. Use a piece of string or thread to cover the river. (In practice, the end of the thread should be placed on the river at the bottom of the map and bent to the right then made into a small loop to cover the path in the first 100 km or so. Moving up the river, similar bendings will have to be made above Abu Simbel and at Thebes. The thread may form gentle curves up to Cairo, then the students should be directed to take the left hand main section of the river in the delta to avoid making other bends.
6. About 1,971 km ($34.5/3.5 \times 200$).
7. This will depend on the place where the students live.
8. This will depend on the place where the students live.
9. This will depend on the place where the students live. If the students live in a small town it may be better to find the distance from London to Cairo then add on the distance from answer 8.

Younger students

This activity is more appropriate for older students but you may like to demonstrate it to younger students to show how to find out about the distances in Egypt and compare them with distances in the United Kingdom. The answer to question nine helps the students realise how far Egypt is from their own land.

Outcomes

The students can:

- See how a scale is used to work out distances.
- Appreciate that Egypt covered a large area.
- Appreciate that Egypt is a long way from the United Kingdom.

Older students

The students can be shown how to use the scale then allowed to work on their own or in groups to work out the answers.

Outcomes

The students can:

- Use a scale to work out distances.
- Appreciate that Egypt covered a large area.
- Appreciate that Egypt is a long way from the United Kingdom.