

Map Analysis

Names: _____ Per: _____

DEFINITIONS

- Bias (or biased) – favoring one side over another
- Map projection – a method of representing a round object on a flat surface, which necessarily distorts the picture (even if it's a satellite photo!)

Mercator Projection



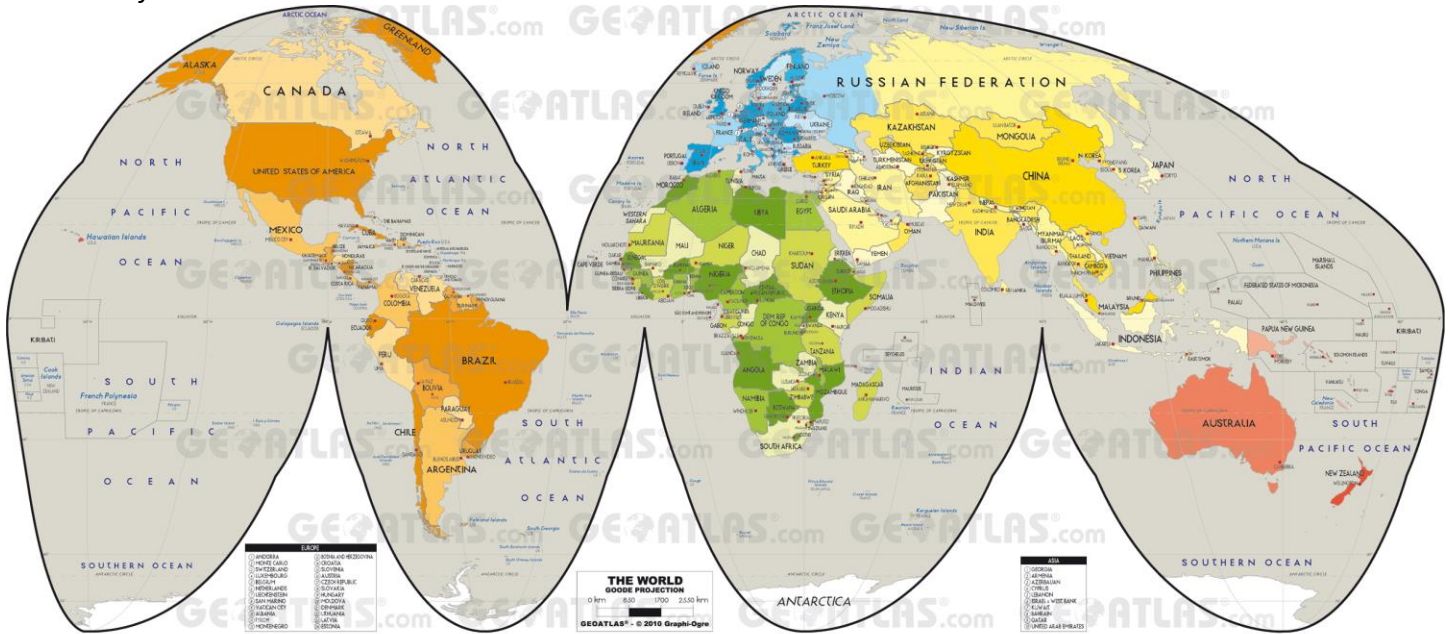
1. Compare Greenland in the Mercator Projection to Greenland on the globe. What's the difference? Why?
2. Compare Antarctica in the Mercator Projection to Antarctica on the globe. What's the difference? Why?
3. Find the U.S.A. on the Mercator Projection. What can its location tell you about where the mapmaker might be from? How can you tell?
4. Compare the location of the equator on the Mercator Projection to the location of the equator on the globe. What's the difference? Why?

Peters Projection



- In the Peters Projection, the sizes are correct, but now the distances are all wrong. Why might it matter if distances are incorrect? Think of at least 2 examples of something that could go wrong.

Goode Projection



- The Goode Projection fixes both the size and distance problems, more or less, and yet some people don't prefer it. Why do you think that is?

London Tube (subway) Map for riders

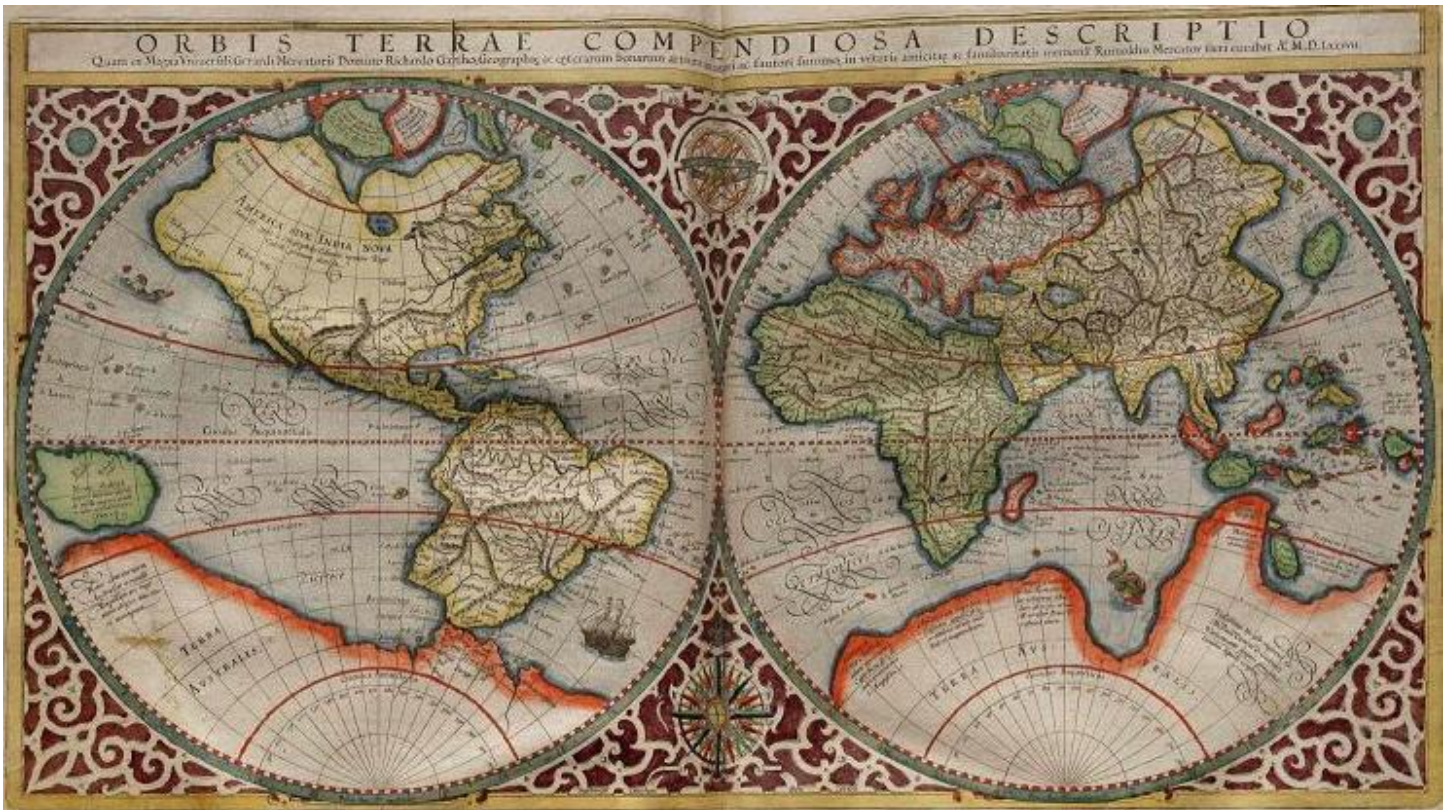


reality of the London Tube (subway) system



7. The first of these subway maps is easy to use. The second is accurate. Is the first map biased? If so, is that a bad thing? Explain your thought process on this.

Orbis Terrae – historic world map from the 1580s



8. What biases does this map reveal? Why might the mapmaker have seen the world this way?

