

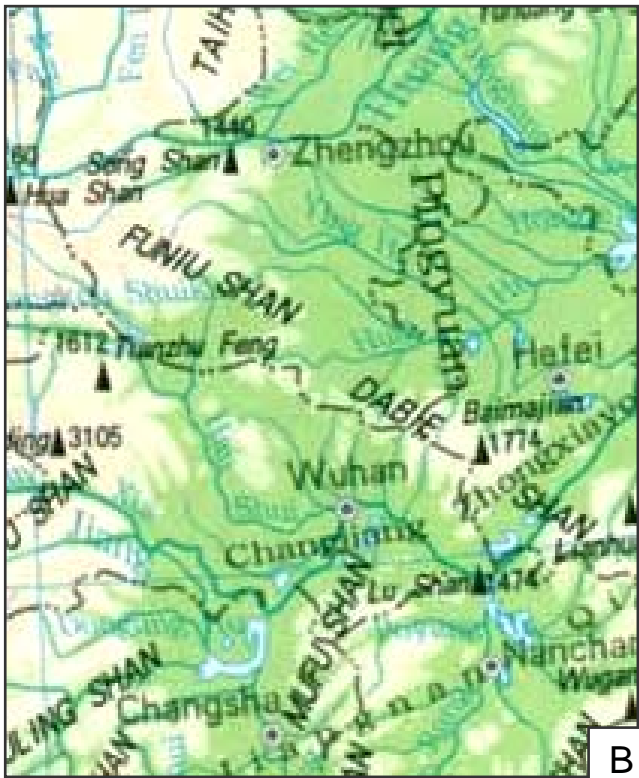
TEACHER'S COPY

- Maps of Jiangxi Province, China*
- A. Map, 19th century, painting
 - B. Topographic map, modern day
 - C. Road Map, modern day



A

Image courtesy of the British Library



B



C

Mapping the Past, Mapping the Present

Maps can tell us many different things about a place. We can learn the names of cities and bodies of water, plan a journey along the roads, or imagine the color of the landscape. They also record the history of a place as it changes.

There are many kinds of maps, each with its own unique properties. On the reverse side of this worksheet, there are three different maps of the same place, Jiangxi (pronounced: 'jyä[ng]-shE/), a province in south-east China.

1. Imagine that you are a traveler in Jiangxi. Which map(s) would best help you find the road to the next town?
Map C, because it shows the most roads.
2. Which map tells you the most about what the land looks like? Why?
Maps A and/or B, because they describe the mountainous terrain and rivers.
3. Which map would you use to learn the names of the mountains, rivers, and lakes?
Map B.
4. Which map tells you the most about a specific location? Describe it.
Map A.
5. Describe what you think the land looks like in Jaingxi Province..
Should include tall mountains and many rivers.
6. Which map shows the buildings of Jaingxi?
Map A.
7. Imagine that you want to show someone what Jaingxi looks like. Which one of the three maps would you choose? Explain.
Answers will vary.
8. Which map do you think is the oldest? Why?
Map A is oldest. It is not a true aerial perspective, it is done as a painting, and it shows no roads.
9. Look at Map A. What do you think was important to the person who made this map? Why do you say that?
Answers will vary, and may include shape of land and water forms, natural qualities, settlements, and a sense of the view.