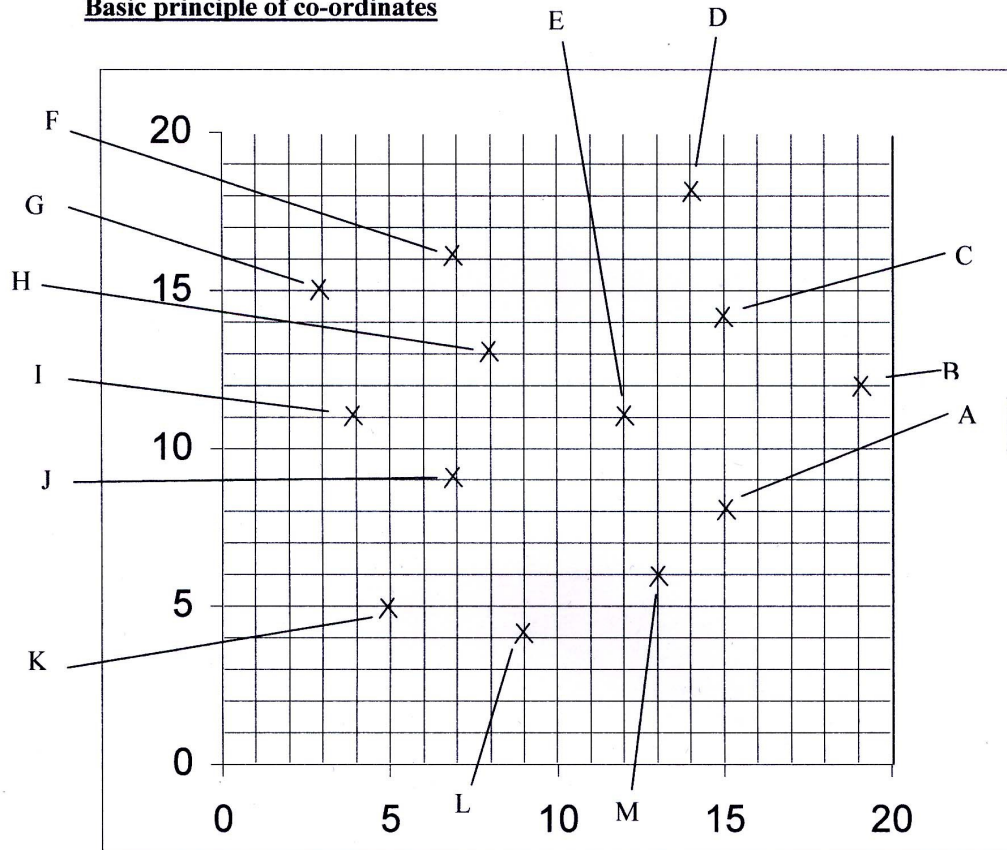


030 WHERE ARE WE?

DEFINING EXACTLY WHERE YOU ARE ON A MAP

Most maps have a “grid” superimposed on the basic map. The grid can be used to identify precisely where a particular item is, i.e. a church, a cross-roads, a bridge, the centre of a wood, and so on. To identify a particular point we use “co-ordinates”. These were originally developed by the Frenchman René Descartes and are therefore often called “Cartesian co-ordinates”.

Basic principle of co-ordinates



In giving the co-ordinates we first identify how far along the horizontal scale (or axis) from zero the point is. Point A, for example, is 15 spaces from zero on the horizontal axis. Its horizontal co-ordinate is therefore 15. We use the same process on the vertical axis, and find that its vertical co-ordinate is 8. We can now say that Point A is at 15, 8 on this grid.