CODING FOR STUDENT MAPS

1) Shape

Choose one of the six categories that best describes the shape of the student's map. The choices are: List, Puzzle, Edge, Island, Edge + Island, and Traditional. Refer to the examples on the next page. When it comes to the Traditional map, be generous in your assessment since even adults do not draw traditional maps very accurately. Do you feel that they are trying to draw a Traditional map, or are they just guessing? Be aware that students often misjudge the amount of space they will need, so distances may be off.

2) Concepts: Orientation

Does the map show that the student has a sense of orientation in terms of North/South, East/West?

3) Concepts: Spatial Relationships

Does the map correctly display spatial relationships? For example, is Africa on the right-hand side of the Atlantic Ocean and South America on the left-hand side? Is there a large ocean between Africa and South America?

4) Concepts: Size Relationships

Does the map correctly display size relationships? For example, is Europe smaller than Africa?

5) Concepts: Nesting

Nesting is the concept of hierarchy (countries are inside continents, cities are inside countries). This is a concept that comes in stages, so a student may show one example correctly and a number of others incorrectly. Score Nesting on the basis of the extent to which you think the student understands the underlying concept. Note that students who only include continents should be coded high because they implicitly show they understand nesting—they do not treat continents and countries as if they were the same (as some of the Island maps do).

6) Content: Reference Points

Does the map include the North and South Poles, the Equator, and a Compass or N/S/E/W direction indicator?

7) Content: Continents Visible

Students may show the continents but not label them. Which of the seven continents are shown but not labeled?

8) Content: Continents Labeled

Which of the seven continents are correctly labeled?

9) Content: Oceans Labeled

Which of the four main oceans are correctly labeled? If others bodies of water are labeled, list them.

10) Content: Places Studied

Does the map include any places that were discussed in class? If so, list them.

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Shape	List	Puzzle	Edge	Island	Edge + Island	Traditional
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Concepts

	None	Poor	Moderately good	Very good	Excellent
Orientation	1	2	3	4	5
Spatial Relationships	1	2	3	4	5
Size Relationships	1	2	3	4	5
Nesting	1	2	3	4	5

Content

Reference Points	North Pole	South Pole	Equator	Compass			
Continents Visible	N. America	S. America	Europe	Africa	Asia	Australia	Antarctica
Continents Labeled	N. America	S. America	Europe	Africa	Asia	Australia	Antarctica
Oceans Labeled	Atlantic	Pacific	Indian	Arctic			
Places Studied [fill in]							

MAP EXAMPLES

