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**Level 3 – 21st August 2025**

## **Africa calls for map to show continent's true size**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

The African Union (AU) has called for an end to a widely used map that shrinks the African continent. The map is called the Mercator projection. It was created by mapmaker Gerardus Mercator in 1569. In the 18th century, it became the international standard for sailors. It is now the world's most widely used map. However, it does not show the true size of different nations. Countries farther away from the Equator look larger than they really are, whereas countries closer to the Equator appear smaller. The AU is supporting a campaign called Correct the Map. It is also calling for a design that shows the correct size of Africa, and of other continents and countries.

The deputy chairperson of the AU spoke about the Mercator map. She told Reuters: "It might seem to be just a map, but in reality, it is not." She said the Mercator gave the impression that Africa was less important. She said Africa is the world's second-largest continent by area and has more than one billion people. The executive director of the non-profit organization Africa No Filter agreed. She said the Mercator map was "the world's longest misinformation and disinformation campaign and it just simply has to stop". The group Speak Up Africa wants people to use the 2018 Equal Earth map, on which "Africa appears 14 times larger than Greenland, as it actually is".

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/aug/15/african-union-true-size-world-map-replace-mercator-version>  
<https://edition.cnn.com/2025/08/15/africa/africa-real-size-world-map-campaign-intl>  
<https://correctthemap.org/>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mercator\\_projection](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mercator_projection)  
<https://equal-earth.com/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. AFRICA:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about Africa. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

Africa / maps / mapmakers / sailors / nations / the Equator / design / continents / chairperson / reality / important / misinformation / disinformation / campaign / equal

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. ONLINE MAPS:** Students A **strongly** believe online maps are better than maps in books or on paper; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. CONTINENTS:** What do you know about the seven continents? What do you want to know? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	What I Want to Know
Africa		
Antarctica		
Europe		
Asia		
North/South America		
Australia		

**5. EQUATOR:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "equator". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. MAPS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best maps at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Tourist map
- Political map
- Weather map
- Historical map
- Road map
- Physical map
- World map
- Time zones map

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1. shrinks     | a. Seem; give the feeling of being.  |
| 2. continent   | b. One of the seven very large areas of land on Earth (E.g. Africa, Asia, etc.). |
| 3. standard    | c. People who work on a ship or boat.  |
| 4. sailors     | d. Becomes smaller.  |
| 5. the Equator | e. Right and true, not wrong.  |
| 6. appear      | f. The usual or normal way of doing something.                                   |
| 7. correct     | g. The invisible line around the middle of the Earth.                            |

## Paragraph 2

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 8. chairperson                    | h. A group that works to help people, not to make money.                                      |
| 9. in reality                     | i. The feeling or idea you get about someone or something.                                    |
| 10. impression                    | j. Planned actions to reach a goal (like to change something or tell people about something). |
| 11. non-profit organization (NPO) | k. The leader of a company, organization, meeting or group.                                   |
| 12. misinformation                | l. What is true, not what people think.   |
| 13. campaign                      | m. In fact, really.   |
| 14. actually                      | n. Information that is not true.  |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

## 1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. The African Union wants people to stop using a map that shrinks Africa. **T / F**
2. The world's most widely used map was created in 1569. **T / F**
3. On the widely used map, northern countries look smaller than they are. **T / F**
4. On the widely used map, countries on the Equator look larger. **T / F**
5. The article says Africa has the world's second largest population. **T / F**
6. The Africa No Filter group said the widely used map misinformed people. **T / F**
7. The Speak Up Africa group wants people to use a gender equality map. **T / F**
8. Greenland is 14 times smaller than Africa. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| 1. <b>map</b>           | a. feeling  |
| 2. <b>created</b>       | b. accurate |
| 3. <b>international</b> | c. region   |
| 4. <b>true</b>          | d. chart    |
| 5. <b>supporting</b>    | e. really   |
| 6. <b>seem</b>          | f. global   |
| 7. <b>impression</b>    | g. backing  |
| 8. <b>area</b>          | h. plainly  |
| 9. <b>simply</b>        | i. made     |
| 10. <b>actually</b>     | j. appear   |

## 3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. In the 18th century, it became the international | a. used map              |
| 2. It is now the world's most widely                | b. campaign              |
| 3. Countries farther                                | c. size of Africa        |
| 4. countries closer to the Equator                  | d. was less important    |
| 5. a design that shows the correct                  | e. larger than Greenland |
| 6. the impression that Africa                       | f. away from the Equator |
| 7. Africa is the world's second-largest             | g. profit organization   |
| 8. The executive director of the non-               | h. appear smaller        |
| 9. misinformation and disinformation                | i. continent by area     |
| 10. Africa appears 14 times                         | j. standard for sailors  |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

The African Union (AU) has called for an end to a widely used map that (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the African continent. The map is called the Mercator projection. It was (2) \_\_\_\_\_ by mapmaker Gerardus Mercator in 1569. In the 18th century, it became the international standard for (3) \_\_\_\_\_. It is now the world's most widely used map. However, it does not show the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ size of different nations. Countries farther away from the Equator look (5) \_\_\_\_\_ than they really are, whereas countries closer to the Equator appear smaller. The AU is (6) \_\_\_\_\_ a campaign called Correct the Map. It is also calling for a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ that shows the correct size of Africa, and of other (8) \_\_\_\_\_ and countries.

The (9) \_\_\_\_\_ chairperson of the AU spoke about the Mercator map. She told Reuters: "It might seem to be just a map, but in (10) \_\_\_\_\_, it is not." She said the Mercator gave the impression that Africa was (11) \_\_\_\_\_ important. She said Africa is the world's second-largest continent by area and has more than one billion people. The executive (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of the non-profit organization Africa No Filter (13) \_\_\_\_\_. She said the Mercator map was "the world's longest misinformation and disinformation campaign and it just (14) \_\_\_\_\_ has to stop". The group Speak Up Africa wants people to use the 2018 Equal Earth map, on (15) \_\_\_\_\_ "Africa appears 14 times larger than Greenland, as it (16) \_\_\_\_\_ is".

*larger*  
*shrinks*  
*design*  
*true*  
*continents*  
*created*  
*supporting*  
*sailors*

*less*  
*agreed*  
*which*  
*deputy*  
*director*  
*actually*  
*reality*  
*simply*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

- 1) The African Union (AU) has called for an end to a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. widely used maps
  - b. widely used mapped
  - c. widely used map
  - d. widely used maple
- 2) It was created by mapmaker Gerardus Mercator in 1569. In \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the 18th year
  - b. the 18th decade
  - c. the 18th century
  - d. the 18th millennium
- 3) However, it does not show the true size \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. of difference nations
  - b. of different nations
  - c. of differently nations
  - d. off different nations
- 4) larger than they really are, whereas countries closer to the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Equator appear smaller
  - b. Equator appears smaller
  - c. Equator appearance smaller
  - d. Equator appearing smaller
- 5) It is also calling for a design that shows the correct \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. sizes of Africa
  - b. sized of Africa
  - c. size of Africa
  - d. seize of Africa
- 6) It might seem to be just a map, but in reality, \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. it is now
  - b. it is not
  - c. it is non
  - d. it is none
- 7) She said the Mercator gave the impression that Africa \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. was lesser important
  - b. was lessen important
  - c. was less important
  - d. was lest important
- 8) The executive director of the non-profit organization Africa \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. No Filter agreement
  - b. No Filter aggrieved
  - c. No Filter agreeable
  - d. No Filter agreed
- 9) the world's longest misinformation and disinformation campaign and it just simply \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. have to stop
  - b. has to stop
  - c. has to stops
  - d. has too stop
- 10) Africa appears 14 times larger than Greenland, as \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. it actually is
  - b. it actually be
  - c. it actually has
  - d. it actually does

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

The African Union (AU) has called for an end (1) \_\_\_\_\_ used map that shrinks the African continent. The map is called the Mercator projection. It (2) \_\_\_\_\_ mapmaker Gerardus Mercator in 1569. In the 18th century, it became the international (3) \_\_\_\_\_. It is now the world's most widely used map. However, it does not show the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ different nations. Countries farther away from the Equator look larger than they really are, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to the Equator appear smaller. The AU is supporting a campaign called Correct the Map. It is also calling for a design that shows the correct size of Africa, and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ and countries.

The (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the AU spoke about the Mercator map. She told Reuters: "It might seem to be just a map, (8) \_\_\_\_\_, it is not." She said the Mercator gave the impression that Africa was less important. She said Africa is the world's second-largest (9) \_\_\_\_\_ and has more than one billion people. The executive director of the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ Africa No Filter agreed. She said the Mercator map was "the world's longest misinformation and disinformation campaign and it just simply (11) \_\_\_\_\_". The group Speak Up Africa wants people to use the 2018 Equal Earth map, on which "Africa appears 14 times larger than Greenland, (12) \_\_\_\_\_ is".



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

1. What is the name of the world's most widely used map?
2. When was the world's most widely used map created?
3. Who used the world's most widely used map in the 18<sup>th</sup> century?
4. What does the world's most widely used map not show?
5. How do countries far from the Equator look on the widely used map?
6. Who spoke to the Reuters news agency about the map?
7. What is the world's second-largest continent by area?
8. What is the population of Africa?
9. What map does the Speak Up Africa group want people to use?
10. What is Africa 15 times larger than?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

- 1) What is the name of the world's most widely used map?
  - a) Google Maps
  - b) the Mercator projection
  - c) the world map
  - d) the weather map
- 2) When was the world's most widely used map created?
  - a) 1596
  - b) 1965
  - c) 1659
  - d) 1569
- 3) Who used the world's most widely used map in the 18<sup>th</sup> century?
  - a) sailors
  - b) soldiers
  - c) pilots
  - d) farmers
- 4) What does the world's most widely used map not show?
  - a) certain countries
  - b) war zones
  - c) the true size of countries
  - d) famous sights
- 5) How do countries far from the Equator look on the widely used map?
  - a) cooler than they really are
  - b) bigger than they really are
  - c) hotter than they really are
  - d) their correct size
- 6) Who spoke to the Reuters news agency about the map?
  - a) the chairperson of the AU
  - b) the mapmaker of the AU
  - c) the deputy chairperson of the AU
  - d) the press officer of the AU
- 7) What is the world's second-largest continent by area?
  - a) Europe
  - b) South America
  - c) Asia
  - d) Africa
- 8) What is the population of Africa?
  - a) more than one billion
  - b) exactly one billion
  - c) roughly one billion
  - d) fewer than one billion
- 9) What map does the Speak Up Africa group want people to use?
  - a) the 2018 Equal Earth map
  - b) the 2018 Equality Earth map
  - c) the 2018 Equine Earth map
  - d) the 2018 Equation Earth map
- 10) What is Africa 15 times larger than?
  - a) Lapland
  - b) Greenland
  - c) Thailand
  - d) Finland

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

## **Role A – Tourist Map**

You think a tourist map is the best kind of map. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their maps. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): a road map, a weather map or a world map.

## **Role B – Road Map**

You think a road map is the best kind of map. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their maps. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): a tourist map, a weather map or a world map.

## **Role C – Weather Map**

You think a weather map is the best kind of map. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their maps. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): a road map, a tourist map or a world map.

## **Role D – World Map**

You think a world map is the best kind of map. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their maps. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): a road map, a weather map or a tourist map.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'Africa' and 'map'.

<b>Africa</b>	<b>map</b>

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• end</li><li>• 1569</li><li>• sailors</li><li>• farther</li><li>• supporting</li><li>• design</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• deputy</li><li>• reality</li><li>• second</li><li>• profit</li><li>• simply</li><li>• 14</li></ul>
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# AFRICA SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Africa in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.  
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# AFRICA DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'Africa'?
3. What do you think of maps?
4. Do you prefer online maps or maps on paper?
5. What do you think of the map that shrinks Africa?
6. Should all maps show the true size of countries?
7. Are you good at reading maps?
8. How often do you use a map?
9. How well do you know the map of the world?
10. What changes would you like to see on the world map?

*Africa calls for map to show continent's true size – 21st August 2025*  
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# AFRICA DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'map'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think of Google Maps and Apple Maps?
15. Why is it important to get the size of continents right?
16. Do you think the Mercator map is misinformation?
17. What do you think of the Equal Earth map?
18. How much do you like the map of your country?
19. When was the last time you used a map?
20. What questions would you like to ask a mapmaker?

## DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

The African Union (AU) has called for an (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to a widely used map that shrinks the African continent. The map is called the Mercator projection. It was created (2) \_\_\_\_\_ mapmaker Gerardus Mercator in 1569. In the 18th (3) \_\_\_\_\_, it became the international standard for sailors. It is now the world's most (4) \_\_\_\_\_ used map. However, it does not show the true size of different nations. Countries farther away from the Equator look larger than they really are, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ countries closer to the Equator appear smaller. The AU is supporting a campaign called Correct the Map. It is also calling for a design that shows the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ size of Africa, and of other continents and countries.

The deputy chairperson of the AU spoke about the Mercator map. She told Reuters: "It might seem to be just a map, but (7) \_\_\_\_\_ reality, it is not." She said the Mercator gave the impression that Africa was less important. She said Africa is the world's second-largest continent (8) \_\_\_\_\_ area and has more than one billion people. The executive director of the non-profit organization Africa No Filter (9) \_\_\_\_\_. She said the Mercator map was "the world's longest misinformation and disinformation campaign and it just (10) \_\_\_\_\_ has to stop". The group Speak Up Africa wants people to use the 2018 Equal Earth map, (11) \_\_\_\_\_ which "Africa appears 14 times larger than Greenland, as it actually (12) \_\_\_\_\_".

**Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.**

- |     |                  |               |                |               |
|-----|------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) ended        | (b) ends      | (c) end        | (d) endless   |
| 2.  | (a) by           | (b) on        | (c) at         | (d) of        |
| 3.  | (a) century      | (b) year      | (c) millennium | (d) decade    |
| 4.  | (a) widely       | (b) widen     | (c) width      | (d) wide      |
| 5.  | (a) nevertheless | (b) whereas   | (c) moreover   | (d) whereby   |
| 6.  | (a) corrects     | (b) correctly | (c) correction | (d) correct   |
| 7.  | (a) at           | (b) of        | (c) in         | (d) by        |
| 8.  | (a) to           | (b) of        | (c) at         | (d) by        |
| 9.  | (a) agreed       | (b) agreement | (c) agreeable  | (d) agreeably |
| 10. | (a) simply       | (b) simple    | (c) simplify   | (d) simpleton |
| 11. | (a) as           | (b) on        | (c) at         | (d) that      |
| 12. | (a) be           | (b) have      | (c) is         | (d) sizes     |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. a wiedly used map
2. the African notecnitn
3. the international standard for lsarsio
4. the true size of different sanntio
5. The AU is supporting a pgacainm
6. a sdnieg that shows the correct size

## Paragraph 2

7. The deyutp chairperson of the AU
8. but in ayrietl, it is not
9. gave the nsisipemro that Africa was less important
10. director of the non-ifrtop organization
11. Africa No Filter aegdre
12. Africa pperasa 14 times larger than Greenland

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) agreed. She said the Mercator map was "the world's longest misinformation and
- ( ) billion people. The executive director of the non-profit organization Africa No Filter
- ( ) calling for a design that shows the correct size of Africa, and of other continents and countries.
- ( ) continent. The map is called the Mercator projection. It was created by
- ( ) disinformation campaign and it just simply has to stop". The group Speak Up Africa wants people to use the 2018
- ( ) Equal Earth map, on which "Africa appears 14 times larger than Greenland, as it actually is".
- ( ) Equator appear smaller. The AU is supporting a campaign called Correct the Map. It is also
- ( ) important. She said Africa is the world's second-largest continent by area and has more than one
- ( ) map, but in reality, it is not." She said the Mercator gave the impression that Africa was less
- ( ) mapmaker Gerardus Mercator in 1569. In the 18th century, it became the international standard for
- ( ) nations. Countries farther away from the Equator look larger than they really are, whereas countries closer to the
- ( ) sailors. It is now the world's most widely used map. However, it does not show the true size of different
- ( **1** ) The African Union (AU) has called for an end to a widely used map that shrinks the African
- ( ) The deputy chairperson of the AU spoke about the Mercator map. She told Reuters: "It might seem to be just a

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

1. A shrinks that continent African the map widely-used .
2. The sailors for became map international the standard .
3. It show doesn't true of size the nations .
4. Countries Equator away from the farther larger look .
5. A Africa's design correct shows that size .
6. It map seem to a just be might .
7. She second-largest is Africa said world's the continent .
8. The world's misinformation the was campaign map longest .
9. People 2018 should map use the Equal Earth .
10. Africa Greenland appears 14 times than larger .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

The African Union (AU) has called for an end to a widely used map that *shrinks / shrink* the African continent. The map is called the Mercator projection. It was created *by / at* mapmaker Gerardus Mercator in 1569. In the 18th century, it became the international standard for *sailor / sailors*. It is now the world's most *widely / width* used map. However, it does not show the *truth / true* size of different nations. Countries *further / farther* away from the Equator look larger than they *reality / really* are, whereas countries closer *to / of* the Equator appear smaller. The AU is supporting a campaign *calling / called* Correct the Map. It is also calling for a design that shows the correct size of Africa, and of *other / another* continents and countries.

The deputy chairperson *of / in* the AU spoke about the Mercator map. She told Reuters: "It might seem to *have / be* just a map, but in reality, it is not." She said the Mercator *gave / giving* the impression that Africa was *lessen / less* important. She said Africa is the world's second-largest continent *by / of* area and has more than one billion people. The executive director of the non-profit organization Africa No Filter *agreement / agreed*. She said the Mercator map was "the *worldly / world's* longest misinformation and disinformation campaign and it just *simple / simply* has to stop". The group Speak Up Africa wants people to use the 2018 Equal Earth map, on *which / what* "Africa appears 14 times larger than Greenland, as it *actual / actually* is".

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

Th\_ \_fr\_c\_n \_n\_\_n (\_\_) h\_s c\_ll\_d f\_r \_n \_nd t\_ \_  
w\_d\_ly \_s\_d m\_p th\_t shr\_nks th\_ \_fr\_c\_n c\_nt\_n\_nt.  
Th\_ m\_p \_s c\_ll\_d th\_ M\_rc\_t\_r pr\_j\_ct\_\_n. \_t w\_s  
cr\_\_t\_d by m\_pm\_k\_r G\_r\_rd\_s M\_rc\_t\_r \_n 1569. \_n  
th\_ 18th c\_nt\_ry, \_t b\_c\_m\_ th\_ \_nt\_rn\_t\_\_n\_l  
st\_nd\_rd f\_r s\_\_l\_rs. \_t \_s n\_w th\_ w\_rld's m\_st  
w\_d\_ly \_s\_d m\_p. H\_w\_v\_r, \_t d\_\_s n\_t sh\_w th\_ tr\_\_  
s\_z\_ \_f d\_ff\_r\_nt n\_t\_\_ns. C\_\_ntr\_\_s f\_rth\_r \_w\_y fr\_m  
th\_ \_q\_\_t\_r l\_\_k l\_rg\_r th\_n th\_y r\_\_lly \_r\_, wh\_r\_\_s  
c\_\_ntr\_\_s cl\_s\_r t\_ th\_ \_q\_\_t\_r \_pp\_\_r sm\_ll\_r. Th\_ \_\_  
\_s s\_pp\_rt\_ng \_ c\_mp\_\_gn c\_ll\_d C\_rr\_ct th\_ M\_p. \_t  
\_s \_ls\_ c\_ll\_ng f\_r \_ d\_s\_gn th\_t sh\_ws th\_ c\_rr\_ct  
s\_z\_ \_f \_fr\_c\_, \_nd \_f \_th\_r c\_nt\_n\_nts \_nd c\_\_ntr\_\_s.  
Th\_ d\_p\_ty ch\_\_p\_rs\_n \_f th\_ \_\_ sp\_k\_ \_b\_\_t th\_  
M\_rc\_t\_r m\_p. Sh\_ t\_ld R\_\_t\_rs: "\_t m\_ght s\_\_m t\_  
b\_ j\_st \_ m\_p, b\_t \_n r\_\_l\_ty, \_t \_s n\_t." Sh\_ s\_\_d  
th\_ M\_rc\_t\_r g\_v\_ th\_ \_mpr\_ss\_\_n th\_t \_fr\_c\_ w\_s l\_ss  
\_mp\_rt\_nt. Sh\_ s\_\_d \_fr\_c\_ \_s th\_ w\_rld's s\_c\_nd-  
l\_rg\_st c\_nt\_n\_nt by \_r\_\_ \_nd h\_s m\_r\_ th\_n \_n\_  
b\_ll\_\_n p\_\_pl\_. Th\_ \_x\_c\_t\_v\_ d\_r\_ct\_r \_f th\_ n\_n-  
pr\_ft \_rg\_n\_z\_t\_\_n \_fr\_c\_ N\_ F\_ltr \_gr\_\_d. Sh\_ s\_\_d  
th\_ M\_rc\_t\_r m\_p w\_s "th\_ w\_rld's l\_ng\_st  
m\_s\_nf\_rm\_t\_\_n \_nd d\_s\_nf\_rm\_t\_\_n c\_mp\_\_gn \_nd \_t  
j\_st s\_mply h\_s t\_ st\_p". Th\_ gr\_\_p Sp\_\_k \_p \_fr\_c\_  
w\_nts p\_\_pl\_ t\_ \_s\_ th\_ 2018 \_q\_\_l \_\_rth m\_p, \_n  
wh\_ch "\_fr\_c\_ \_pp\_\_rs 14 t\_m\_s l\_rg\_r th\_n Gr\_\_nl\_nd,  
\_s \_t \_ct\_\_lly \_s".

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

the african union au has called for an end to a widely used map that shrinks the african continent the map is called the mercator projection it was created by mapmaker gerardus mercator in 1569 in the 18th century it became the international standard for sailors it is now the worlds most widely used map however it does not show the true size of different nations countries farther away from the equator look larger than they really are whereas countries closer to the equator appear smaller the au is supporting a campaign called correct the map it is also calling for a design that shows the correct size of africa and of other continents and countries

the deputy chairperson of the au spoke about the mercator map she told reuters it might seem to be just a map but in reality it is not she said the mercator gave the impression that africa was less important she said africa is the worlds second largest continent by area and has more than one billion people the executive director of the nonprofit organization africa no filter agreed she said the mercator map was the worlds longest misinformation and disinformation campaign and it just simply has to stop the group speak up africa wants people to use the 2018 equal earth map on which africa appears 14 times larger than greenland as it actually is

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

The African Union (AU) has called for an end to a widely used map that shrinks the African continent. The map is called the Mercator projection. It was created by mapmaker Gerardus Mercator in 1569. In the 18th century, it became the international standard for sailors. It is now the world's most widely used map. However, it does not show the true size of different nations. Countries farther away from the Equator look larger than they really are, whereas countries closer to the Equator appear smaller. The AU is supporting a campaign called Correct the Map. It is also calling for a design that shows the correct size of Africa, and of other continents and countries. The deputy chairperson of the AU spoke about the Mercator map. She told Reuters: "It might seem to be just a map, but in reality, it is not." She said the Mercator gave the impression that Africa was less important. She said Africa is the world's second-largest continent by area and has more than one billion people. The executive director of the non-profit organization Africa No Filter agreed. She said the Mercator map was "the world's longest misinformation and disinformation campaign and it just simply has to stop". The group Speak Up Africa wants people to use the 2018 Equal Earth map, on which "Africa appears 14 times larger than Greenland, as it actually is".

## FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

Write about **Africa** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

[illegible]



# ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2508/250821-map-of-africa.html>

Map-reading should be a subject taught in schools. Discuss.

[illegible]

# HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. AFRICA:** Make a poster about Africa. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. MAPS:** Write a magazine article about mapmakers ensuring the size of all countries is shown correctly. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on Africa. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on the continent. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d    2. b    3. f    4. c    5. g    6. a    7. e  
8. k    9. l    10. i    11. h    12. n    13. j    14. m

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 T    2 T    3 F    4 F    5 F    6 T    7 F    8 T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. d	2. i	3. f	4. b	5. g
6. j	7. a	8. c	9. h	10. e

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- The Mercator projection
- 1569
- Sailors
- The true size of countries
- Bigger than they really are
- The deputy chairperson of the AU
- Africa
- More than one billion
- The 2018 Equal Earth map
- Greenland

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- A widely-used map that shrinks the African continent.
- The map became the international standard for sailors.
- It doesn't show the true size of nations.
- Countries farther away from the Equator look larger.
- A design that shows Africa's correct size.
- It might seem to be just a map.
- She said Africa is the world's second-largest continent.
- The map was the world's longest misinformation campaign.
- People should use the 2018 Equal Earth map.
- Africa appears 14 times larger than Greenland.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b    2. d    3. a    4. c    5. b    6. c    7. d    8. a    9. a    10. b

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)