Map Drawing Practice: Compass Rose, Legend, and Boundary Lines

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

On a blank map frame, draw a compass rose in the top-left corner using the lesson convention. Label all four arms. Then state where North points.

Answer: A four-point rose with N at the top, E right, S down, W left, and the North arm slightly longer. North points to the top of the page.

Reason: The convention fixes North at the top and requires four labeled arms. The top-left corner is a valid placement because it does not cover other elements.

Check: Point to the N label and confirm it is at the top of the page. Confirm all four labels are present and readable.

Task 2

Draw a legend box with exactly three entries: solid line = boundary, dashed line = path, triangle = peak. Then draw one boundary line and one path on the map frame, and one triangle marker. Check that every symbol is in the legend.

Answer: Legend box with three entries as listed. One solid boundary line from edge to edge, one dashed path, and one triangle marker. All three symbols appear in the legend.

Reason: Each symbol used on the map must be explained in the legend. The boundary line is continuous, and the path uses the dashed symbol.

Check: Count the symbols on the map and match each to a legend entry. Confirm the boundary line is continuous.

Task 3

A map has a compass rose with N pointing to the right side of the page and a boundary line that stops in the middle of the frame. Identify two mistakes and state how to fix each.

Answer: Mistake 1: North points to the side. Fix: redraw the rose with N at the top. Mistake 2: the boundary line stops in the middle. Fix: extend it to the frame edge or close it into a loop.

Reason: The convention requires N at the top, and a boundary line must separate regions completely rather than stopping mid-region.

Check: Check the N label is at the top and trace the boundary line to confirm it reaches an edge or closes.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Using the boundary-line practice grid, draw two straight boundary segments that each start and end on grid intersections. Then describe how you would check each segment is straight and continuous.

Answer: Two segments drawn between grid intersections. Check by counting grid squares along the line and confirming the line does not cross itself or stop before the end intersection.

Reason: Starting and ending on intersections makes the line checkable by counting squares. A straight, continuous line has no gaps or self-crossings.

Check: Place a ruler along each segment and confirm it touches both end intersections. Trace with a finger to confirm no gaps.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Compass rose present with N at the top of the page and all four labels readable.
- [ ] Legend box present with at least three entries, each symbol matching its meaning.
- [ ] At least one boundary line drawn continuously from edge to edge or as a closed loop.
- [ ] Every symbol used on the map appears in the legend, and every legend entry appears on the map.
- [ ] Labels are readable to a classmate without asking for clarification.
- [ ] Map checklist completed with all five items marked.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?