

Map Memory Test

The following map test was adapted from the *Assessment of Men: Selection of Personnel for the Office of Strategic Services* published by Rinehart and Company Inc. 1948

Items you will need for this test:

1. Timer
2. Pencil or pen
3. Print this document. (Do not look at any pages besides this instruction page until you begin the test according to instructions below.)

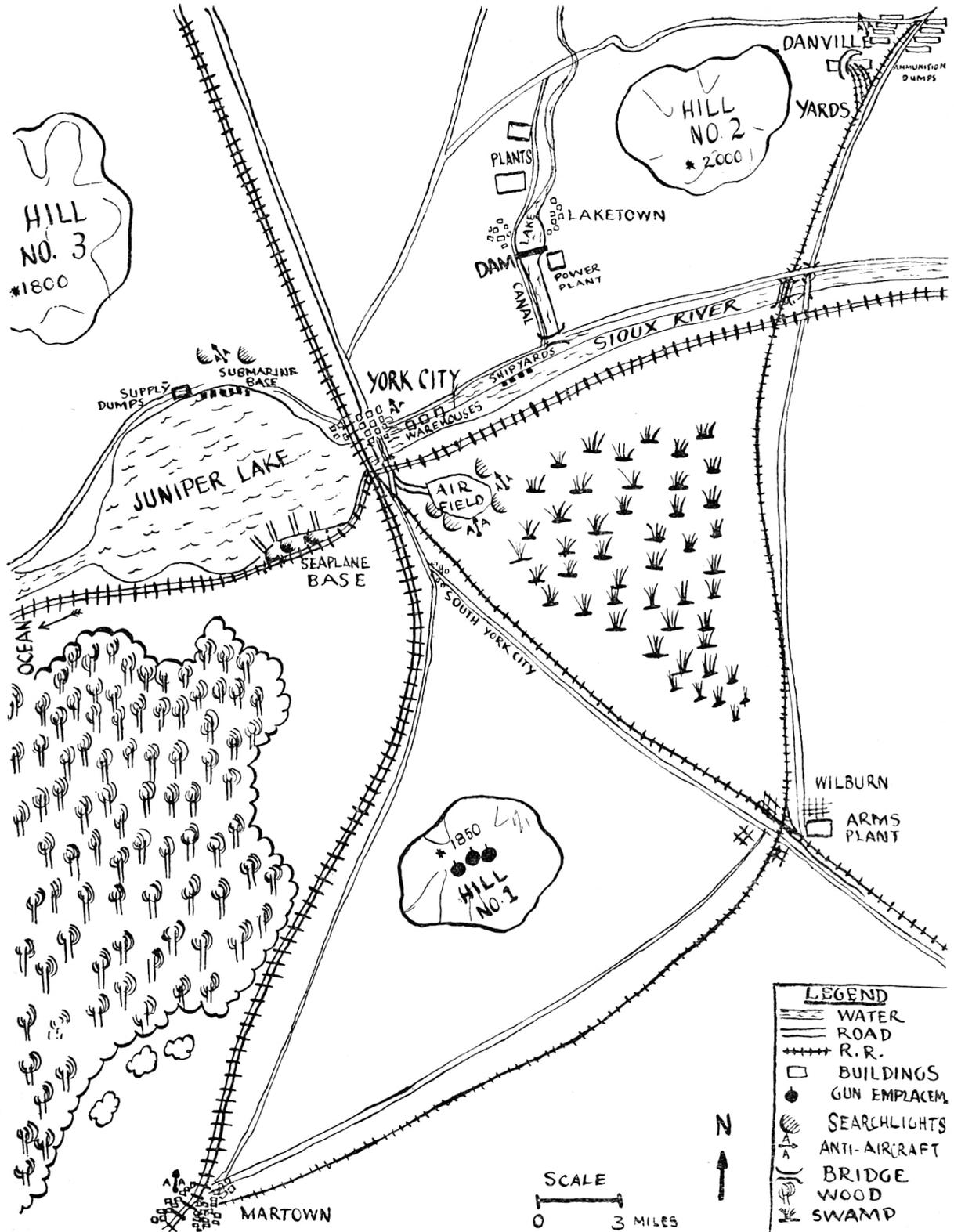
Examiner explanation for the Map Memory Test:

In this test, you are all to assume that you are agents operating in the field. You have just made a secret rendezvous with a courier who has for you a map of the territory you will be covering. But time is short and he can stay with you for only a few minutes while you study the map. He must then leave and take the map with him. As a matter of fact, it turns out that you have only eight minutes to look at the map. Since it would be unsafe to have papers with you, you cannot take notes or make sketches while studying the map. Instead, you must look it over as thoroughly as possible; every part of the map is likely to be important, so commit as many as possible of its details to memory before he takes it away. Do you have any questions? All right, turn the map over and take eight minutes to study it. Go ahead.

Instructions:

1. Set timer for 8 minutes: Study the map, remember as many details as possible.
At the end of the eight minutes put the map away.
2. Set timer for 12 minutes: Answer 30 multiple choice questions without looking at the map.
3. Score yourself on the answer sheet.

Step 1: Study this map for 8 minutes, then put the map away



MAP FOR MAP MEMORY TEST

Step 2: Map Memory Test Questions

You have a number of incomplete statements about the map which you must finish. In each case an incomplete statement is made and five possible completions of it are listed, labeled a, b, c, d, e. Your task is to pick out the correct conclusion for each statement and then circle the appropriate answer. Any questions? Remember, you cannot refer to the map! *All right, go ahead, start your timer – you have 12 minutes.*

Circle the correct answer:

1. The town nearest Wilburn is:
a) Martown b) York City c) Danville d) Laketown e) South York City
2. The distance from Martown to York City is most nearly (in miles):
a) 5 b) 12 c) 19 d) 30 e) 46
3. In relation to the airfield:
a) hill #2 is south b) the submarine base is northwest c) Wilburn is northeast
d) the power plant is southeast e) Martown is north
4. The place that cannot be reached by railroad is: a) the ammunition dumps
b) Laketown c) Wilburn d) the seaplane base e) Martown
5. The supply dumps are nearest to: a) Danville b) the seaplane base
c) the submarine base d) York City e) Wilburn
6. Anti-aircraft batteries are located at: a) the ammunition dumps b) the dam
c) the arms plant d) the shipyards e) hill #1
7. In relation to the gun emplacements: a) South York City is south
b) the seaplane base is southeast c) Danville is southwest
d) the arms plant is east e) the supply dumps are northeast
8. The area that can be reached by train but not by car is: a) the submarine base
b) the airfield c) the seaplane base d) hill #1 e) Danville
9. The length of the large lake is most nearly (in miles):
a) 5 b) 10 c) 15 d) 20 e) 25
10. The name of the city closest to a hill is:
a) Danville b) Laketown c) York City d) South York City e) Wilburn

11. The direction from the large lake to hill # 1 is:
a) north b) northwest c) southwest d) south e) southeast
12. The length of the airfield is most nearly (in miles):
a) $\frac{1}{4}$ b) $\frac{1}{2}$ c) 1 d) $1\frac{1}{2}$ e) 2
13. The arms plant is nearest to:
a) Danville b) Wilburn c) Laketown d) South York City e) York City
14. The number of double-tracked railroad lines shown on the map is:
a) 1 b) 2 c) 3 d) 4 e) 5
15. A power plant is located: a) just north of the dam b) on the river c) near York City
d) near Danville e) near the canal
16. The direction from hill #3 to hill #2 is:
a) northwest b) southeast c) east d) southwest e) west
17. The city nearest the supply dumps is: a) York City b) South York City c) Wilburn
d) Danville e) Laketown
18. The height of hill #1 is: a) 1800 b) 1850 c) 1900 d) 1950 e) 2000
19. The city with the largest number of railroad facilities is:
a) York City b) South York City c) Wilburn d) Martown e) Laketown
20. The place nearest the woods is: a) the submarine base b) the ware- houses
c) Wilburn d) South York City e) the airfield
21. The number of bridges across the river is: a) 1 b) 2 c) 3 d) 4 e) 5
22. The dam is nearest to: a) hill #2 b) York City c) the shipyards
d) Laketown e) the warehouses
23. The facility that is least protected by anti-aircraft or searchlight defenses is:
a) the supply dump b) the railroad yards c) the power plant
d) Martown factories e) the warehouses

24. The smallest city in the area is:
a) Martown b) York City c) Danville d) South York City e) Laketown
25. The ammunition dumps are nearest: a) York City b) Wilburn c) Laketown
d) Martown e) Danville
26. In relation to the seaplane base:
a) the warehouses are southeast b) hill # r is northeast
c) the supply dumps are northwest d) the swamp is southwest e) Laketown is south
27. The distance by railroad from Martown to Wilburn is most nearly (in miles):
a) 12 b) r8 c) 24 d) 30 e) 36
28. The town nearest Laketown is: a) Danville b) Wilburn c) South York City
d) Martown e) York City
29. In relation to Wilburn: a) hill #3 is northwest b) Martown is north
c) the river is south d) the airfield is northeast e) the gun emplacements are south
30. Searchlights without anti-aircraft batteries are located at:
a) the submarine base b) the arms plant c) the shipyards
d) the ammunition dumps e) the seaplane base

Answer Key:

1. C	11. E	21. C
2. D	12. E	22. D
3. B	13. B	23. B
4. B	14. B	24. D
5. C	15. E	25. E
6. A	16. C	26. C
7. D	17. A	27. C
8. C	18. B	28. E
9. B	19. A	29. A
10. A	20. D	30. E

Your Score:

How did you do? Do you think you would have passed the OSS test? This test is pretty difficult, even with the map in front of you.

How the OSS scored the test:

In the OSS test the candidates were allowed at least twelve minutes to indicate the correct completions on their answer sheets. If a candidate had not finished at the end of twelve minutes, he was allowed more time unless it was felt that for some special reason, such as a language handicap, he would hold up the group too long. For such a candidate, the group norms were of course inappropriate.

In this test, as for all paper-and-pencil tests used at S, a distribution curve of raw scores based on a sufficiently large number of cases was plotted and periodically revised, on the basis of which raw scores were converted into ratings on our standard six-point scale. These ratings furnished another measure of the ability of candidates to observe and to report.