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# **TOPOLOGICAL FORMS & TECHNICAL TERMS**

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# **LESSON PLAN MR 1**

## **(Part 3)**

## **Introduction**

Commonly used technical terms and topographical forms is a name used to describe geographical features which occur on the ground.

## **Topographical Forms and Technical Terms**

Topographical forms are names used to describe geographical features which occur on the ground. The following are more commonly used

## Topographical Forms

### Basin

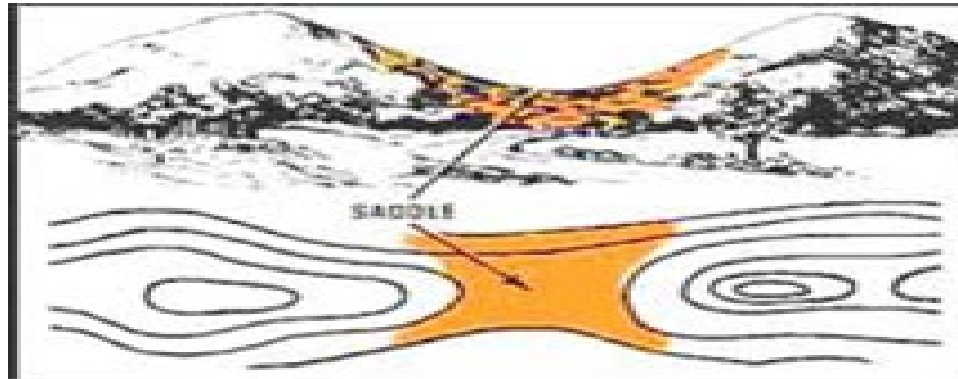
An area of fairly level ground surrounded by hills or the area drained by a river or its distributaries.



## Topographical Forms

### Col or Saddle

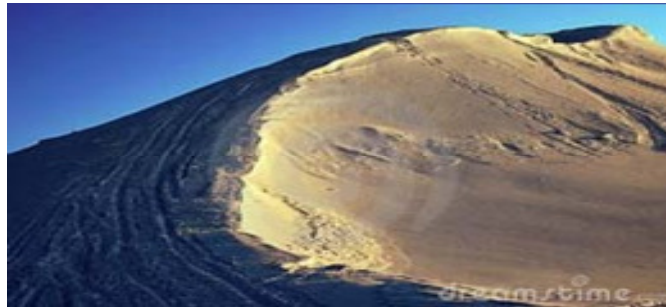
A narrow ridge of high land joining upto higher hills.



## Topographical Forms

### Crest

A highest part of hill or mountain range. It is that line on the range of hills or mountains from which the ground slopes down in opposite direction.



## Topographical Forms

### Dead Ground

Ground which is because of undulations or hills is not visible to the observer.





## Knoll

A small isolated hill.



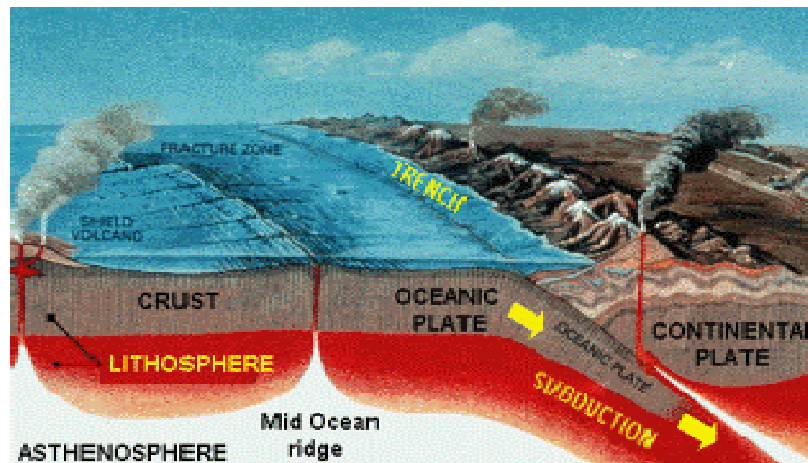
## Plateau

A table land, an elevated region of considerable extent generally of same level.



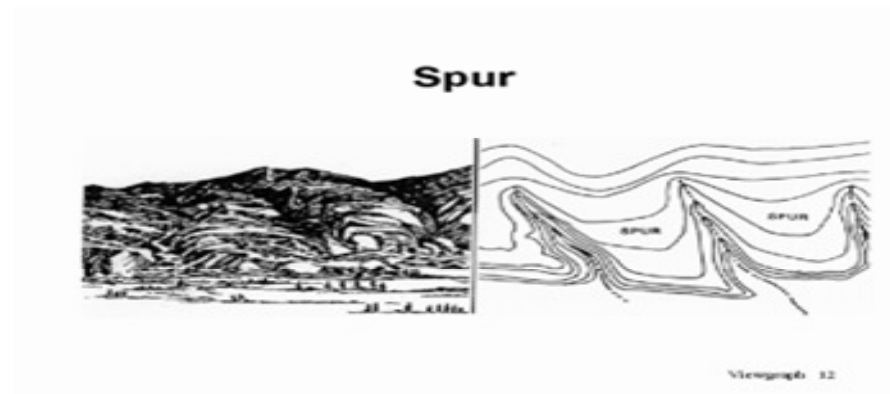
## Ridge

A line along a hill or range of hills or mountains from which water flows in opposite directions.



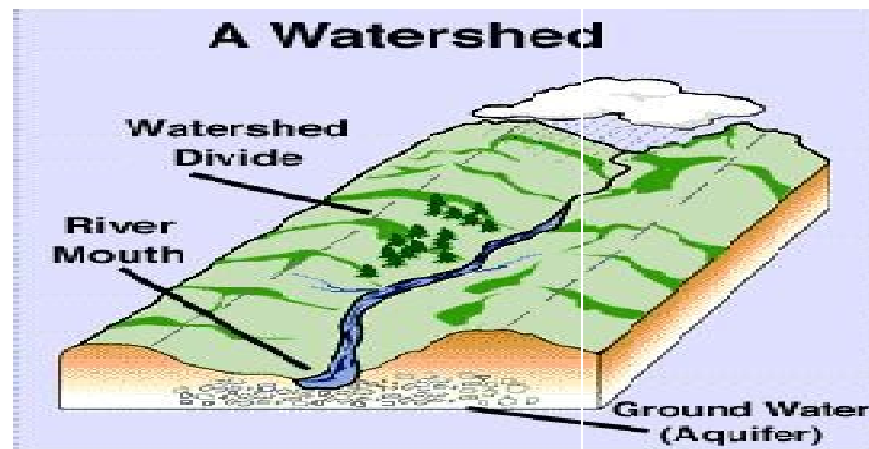
## Spur

A piece of high ground jutting out of range of hills into lower ground.



## Watershed

The line separating the water flowing in two different rivers systems, the edge of a river basin.



## Defile

Any feature whether natural or artificial which could cause a body of troops to contract its front. An example of a natural defile is mountain pass while bridge is an example of an artificial defile.



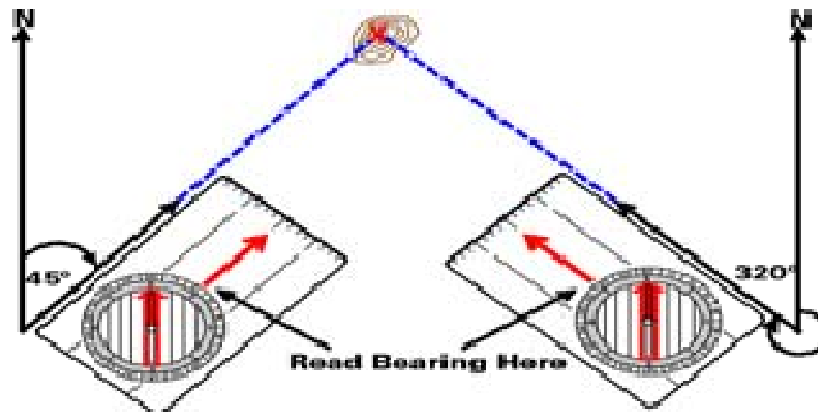
## Escarpment

The steep hill side formed by a sudden drop in the general ground level usually from a plateau.



## Bearing

The angle formed by a line joining two points and the North and South line. Bearings are always measured clockwise.





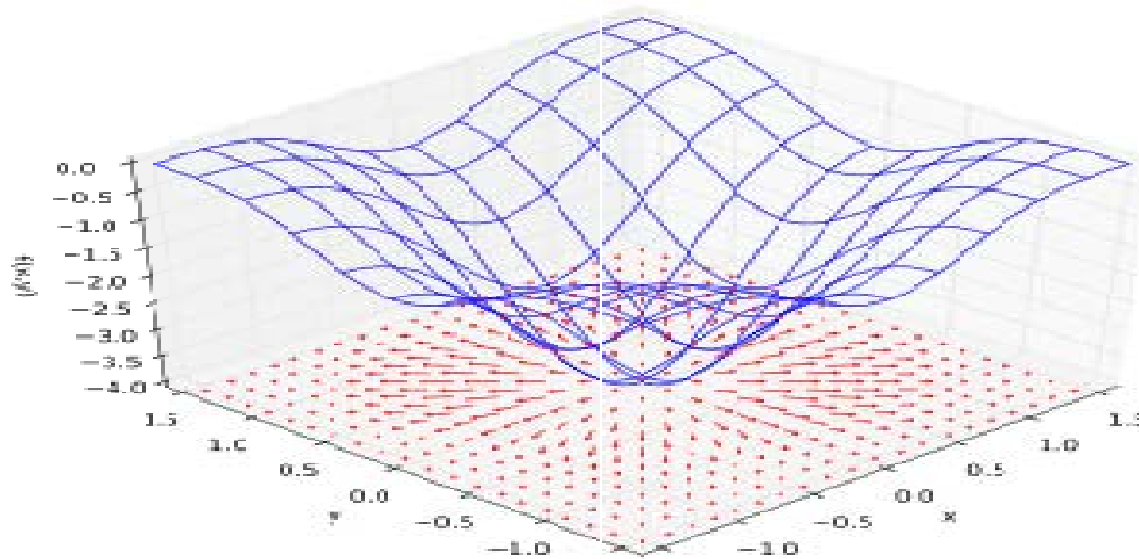
## Bench Mark

A permanent mark usually cut into a wall recording exact height for future reference. It is marked as BM with height on Ordnance Survey Maps.



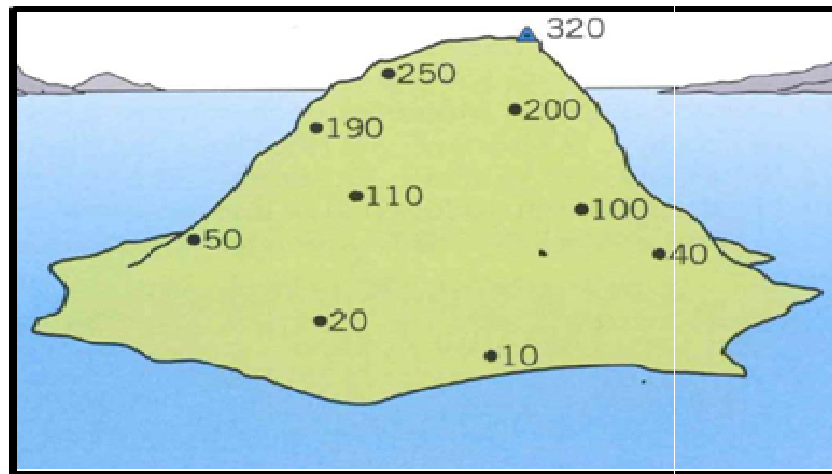
## Gradient

The slope of a hill expressed as a fraction



## Spot Height

A point on a map whose height has been determined by Survey methods. These are usually shown as block dot with a number giving exact height above sea level in meters.



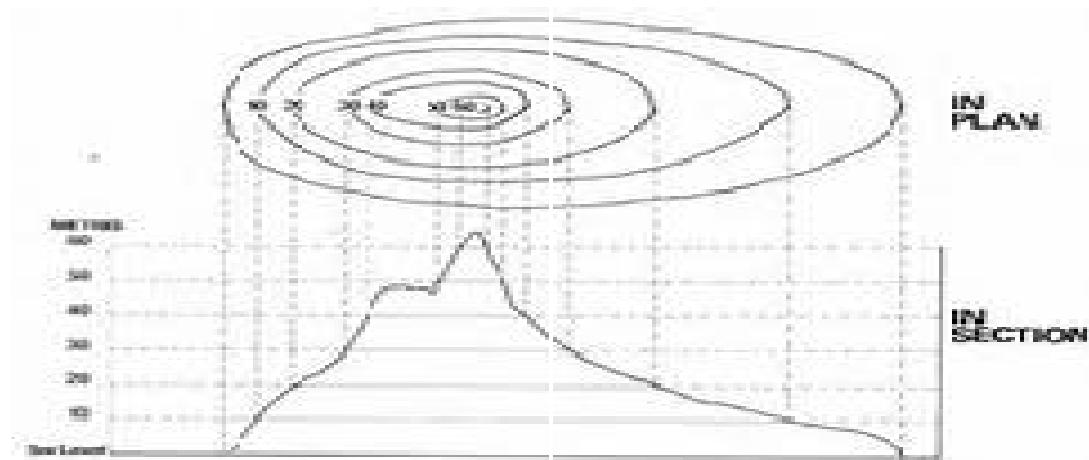
## Trigonometric Point

A point fixed during the triangulation at the beginning of a survey, marked on Ordnance Survey Maps by a small triangle with the height.



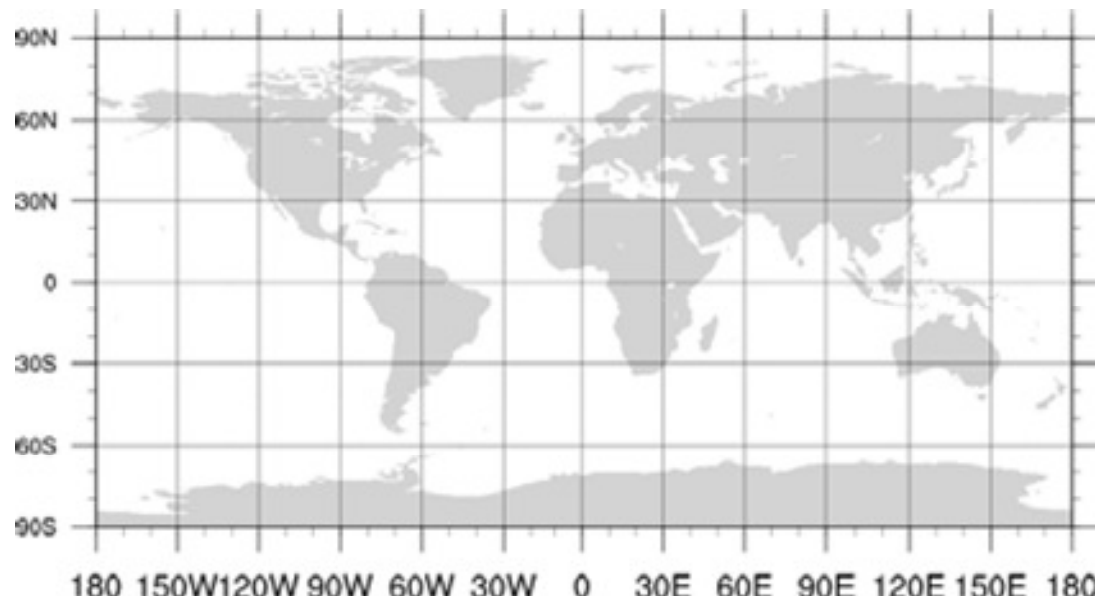
## Contours

A line drawn on the map joining up all points of equal height above sea level.



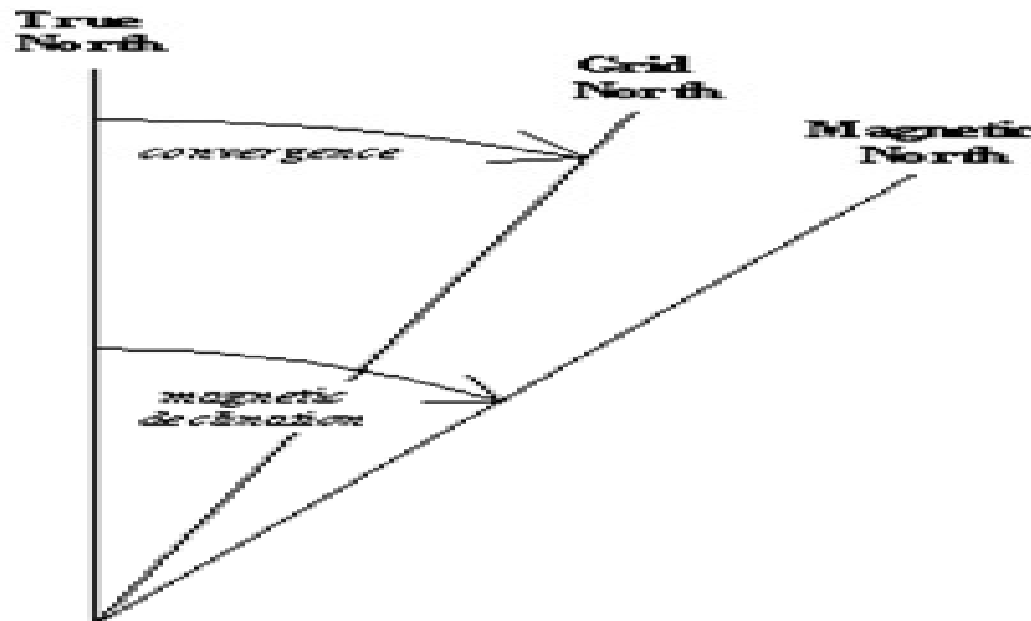
## Grid Lines

Lines running parallel to and at right angle to a North and south or East and West, Grid North is the direction of the North South grid lines on a map.



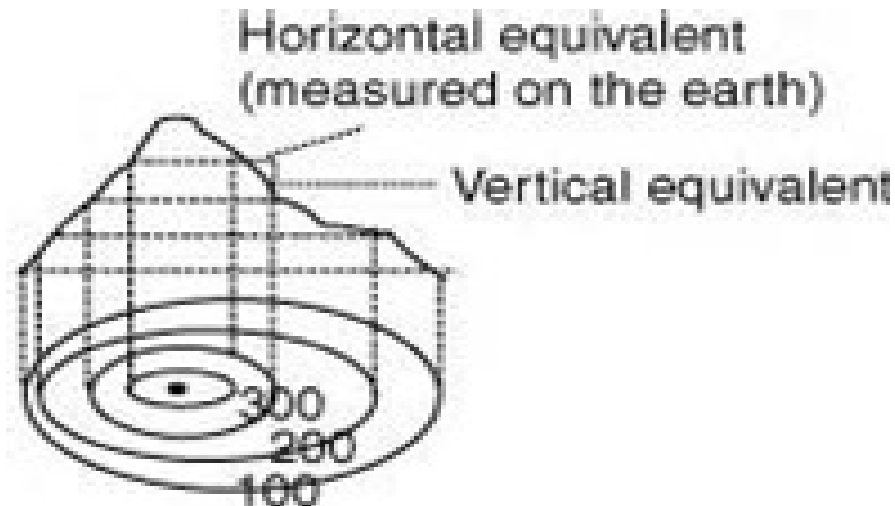
## Magnetic Variation

The difference between True North and Magnetic North.



## Horizontal Equivalent

The distance measured on the map between adjacent contour lines. It varies according to the nature of the relief.





## **Conclusion**

To be proficient in Map Reading and understand it better, it is very important for to understand the various topographical forms and technical terms used in Map Reading. One should be able to identify the topographical form in map and co-relate it with the ground.

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**THANK YOU**



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