

Contour Maps and Land Forms

Chapter 11: Contour Maps and Land Forms · Topic 1

Key Concept

Contour lines connect points of equal elevation on a map, with closely spaced lines indicating steep slopes and widely spaced lines indicating gentle slopes.

Different landforms have distinct contour patterns - hills show concentric circles, while valleys show V-shaped contour lines pointing uphill.

The difference in elevation between two consecutive contour lines is called the contour interval, which remains constant on a given map.

Reading contour maps helps us understand terrain features, useful for hiking, construction planning, and understanding geography.

Quick Revision Notes

- Contour lines: connect equal elevation points.
- Closely spaced = steep slope.
- Widely spaced = gentle slope.
- Hills: concentric circles.
- Valleys: V-shaped lines pointing uphill.
- Contour interval: elevation gap between lines.
- It remains constant on a map.
- Contour maps aid hiking, construction, geography.

Practice Questions

- 1 Draw contour lines for a simple hill.
- 2 Draw contour lines for a valley.
- 3 Discuss what closely spaced lines indicate.
- 4 Practice reading a real contour map if available.
- 5 Discuss the contour interval on a sample map.
- 6 Explain contour maps in your own words.