

Six Figure Grid References

Chapter 2: Six Figure Grid References · Topic 1

Key Concept

A grid reference has two sets of three digits - the first three (easting) show horizontal position, the last three (northing) show vertical position.

To find a six figure grid reference, we identify the grid square, then estimate tenths within that square for both easting and northing.

This precise system allows us to locate an exact point on a map, more specific than a simple four figure grid reference.

Understanding six figure grid references is essential for accurate map reading, navigation, and answering geography exam questions.

Quick Revision Notes

- Six figure references have two sets of three digits.
- First three digits: easting (horizontal position).
- Last three digits: northing (vertical position).
- We estimate tenths within a grid square.
- This gives a precise, exact location.
- It's more specific than a four figure reference.
- This is essential for accurate map reading.
- It's used in geography exams and navigation.

Practice Questions

- 1 Practice finding a six figure grid reference on a map.
- 2 Discuss the difference between easting and northing.
- 3 Compare four figure and six figure grid references.
- 4 Practice estimating tenths within a grid square.
- 5 Find a specific location using its grid reference.
- 6 Explain the grid reference system in your own words.