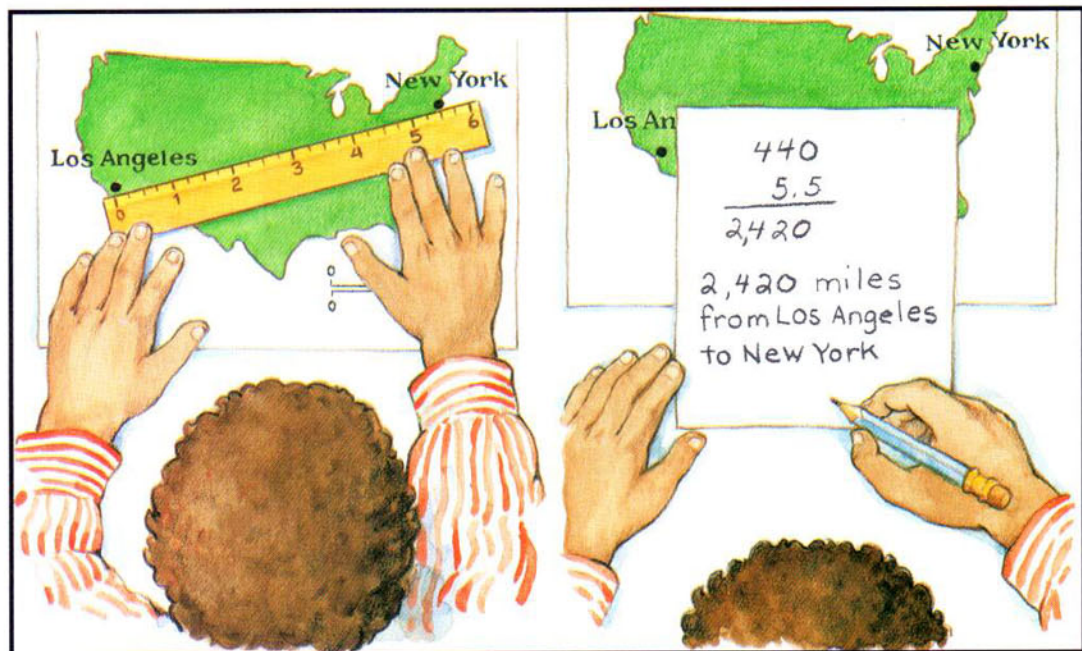
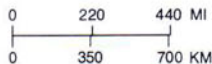


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A **map scale** compares distance on a map with distance in the real world. We use a map scale to find the distance between two places. A map scale shows distance in both **miles (MI)** and **kilometers (KM)**. It looks like this:



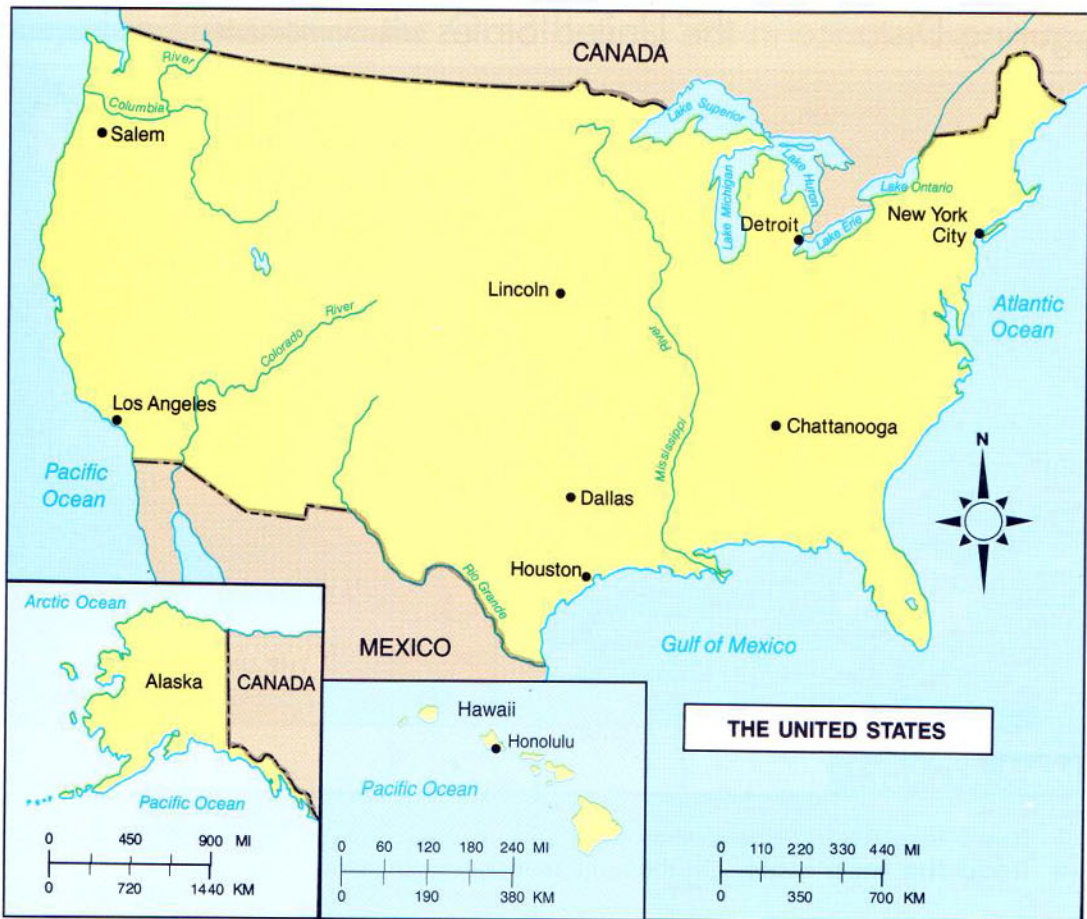
- ▶ What do the letters MI and KM stand for?
- ▶ Which distance is longer, 400 miles or 400 kilometers?

Look at the map of the United States on page 23. Suppose you want to find the distance between Los Angeles and New York City. You will need a ruler, a pencil, and a piece of paper.

Here is how you use the map scale.

- Step 1** Using your ruler, measure the distance between Los Angeles and New York City. On this map, Los Angeles and New York are  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches apart.
- Step 2** Look at the map scale in the lower right-hand corner. You can see that 1 inch equals 440 miles. Remember, there are  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches between Los Angeles and New York City. Use multiplication to find the distance in miles or kilometers.

number of miles per inch	440
× number of inches	× 5.5
= distance in miles	2420



Look at the map of the United States above. Find the two smaller maps in the left-hand corner. One shows Alaska and the other shows Hawaii. Alaska and Hawaii are far from the other forty-eight states. This map isn't big enough to show where Alaska and Hawaii really are. So they are shown in inset maps.

An **inset map** is a small map within a larger map. An inset map may have its own scale. Map scales change depending on how much area is shown. Compare the map scales on the inset maps with the large map.

- ▶ One inch equals how many miles on the map of Hawaii?
- ▶ One inch equals how many miles on the map of Alaska?
- ▶ What can you tell about the sizes of Alaska and Hawaii?
- ▶ To figure the distance between Dallas and Houston, which map scale do you use?
- ▶ What is the distance between Dallas and Houston?
- ▶ Can you figure the distance between Honolulu and Los Angeles using these maps? Why or why not?



# Figuring Distance in the United States



## MAP ATTACK!

- **Read the title.** This map shows \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Read the map scale.** On the large map, one inch stands for \_\_\_\_\_ miles.

Use your ruler to figure these distances.

1. What two states are shown in the inset maps above? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
2. From Phoenix to Kansas City is about \_\_\_\_\_ miles.
3. From New York City to Washington, D.C. is about \_\_\_\_\_ miles.
4. From Kansas City to Boston is about \_\_\_\_\_ miles.
5. From Nome to Juneau is about \_\_\_\_\_ miles.
6. Is it farther from San Francisco to Houston or from Portland to Chicago?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Figuring Distance in the Great Lakes States



Use your ruler to figure these distances.

1. From Chicago to Decatur is about \_\_\_\_\_ miles.
2. From Wausau to Milwaukee is about \_\_\_\_\_ miles.
3. From Thunder Bay to Minneapolis is about \_\_\_\_\_ miles.
4. From Toronto to Buffalo is about \_\_\_\_\_ miles.
5. From Cleveland to Heron Bay is about \_\_\_\_\_ miles.
6. From Milwaukee to Ottawa is about \_\_\_\_\_ miles.
7. From Sudbury to Detroit is about \_\_\_\_\_ miles.
8. From Ottawa to Cincinnati is about \_\_\_\_\_ miles.
9. Is it farther from Chicago to Sudbury or from Heron Bay to Cleveland?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Is it farther from Ottawa to Kingston or from Milwaukee to Chicago?  
\_\_\_\_\_