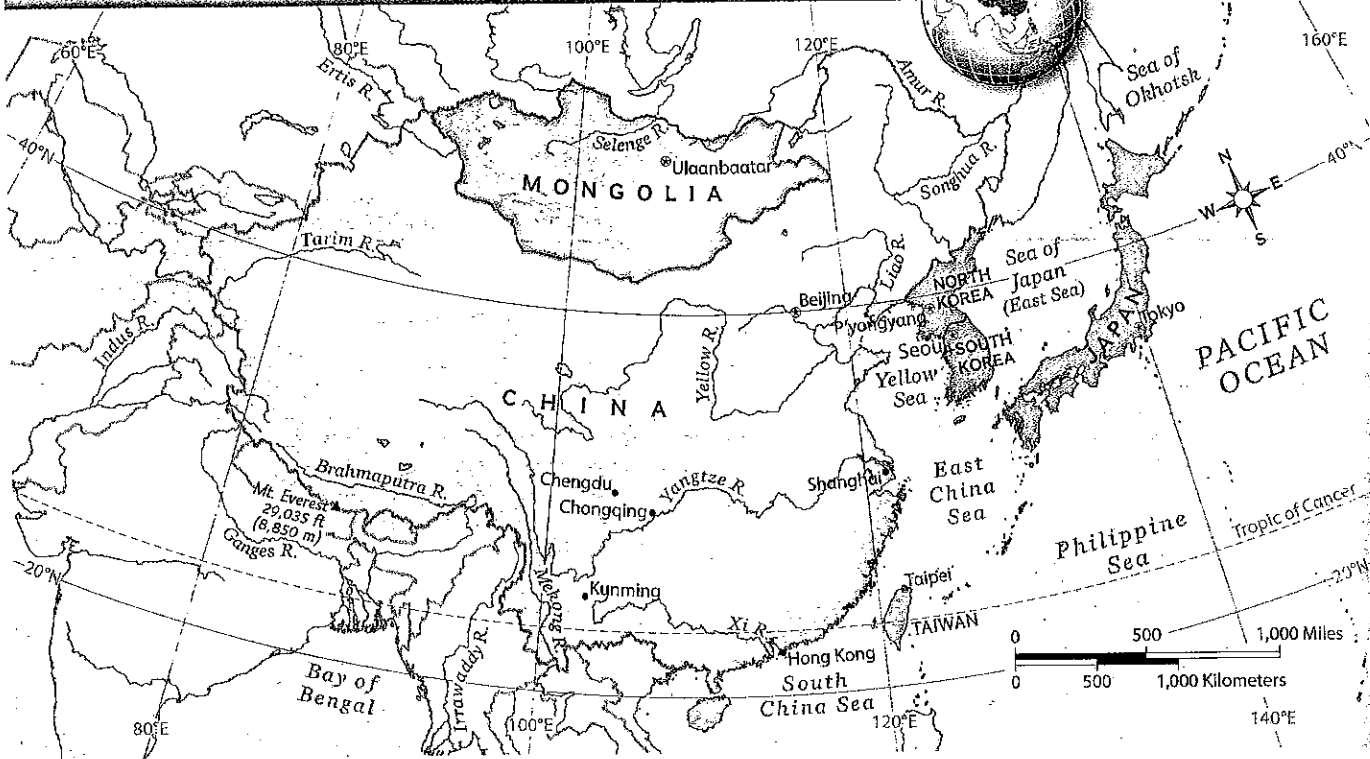
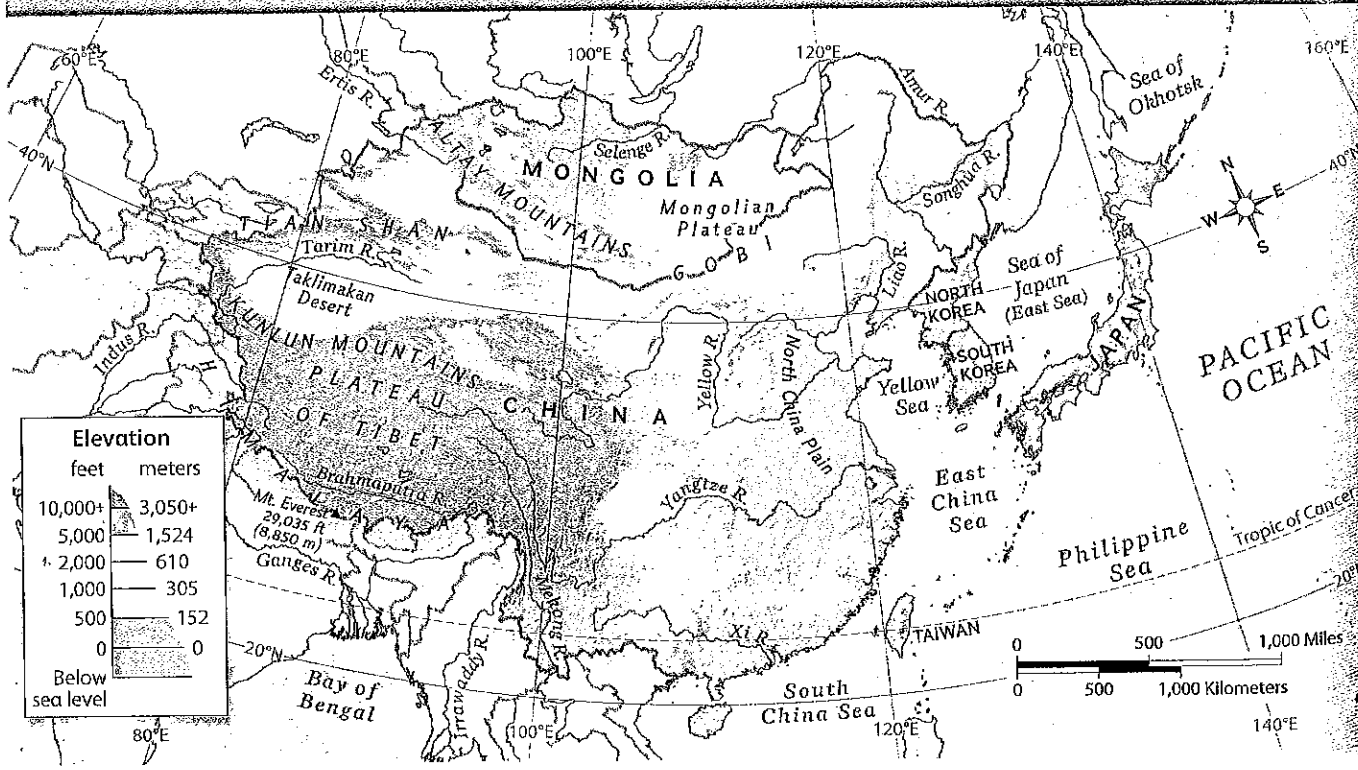


2.3 Political and Physical Maps

EAST ASIA POLITICAL



EAST ASIA PHYSICAL



Main Idea Political maps show features that humans have created on Earth's surface. Physical maps show natural features.

The governor of a state needs a map that shows counties and cities. A mountain climber needs a map that shows cliffs, canyons, and ice fields. **Cartographers**, or mapmakers, create different kinds of maps for these different purposes.

Political Maps

A political map shows features that humans have created, such as countries, states, provinces, and cities. These features are labeled, and lines show boundaries, such as those between countries.

Physical Maps

A physical map shows natural features of physical geography. It includes landforms, such as mountains, plains, valleys, and deserts. It also includes oceans, lakes, rivers, and other bodies of water.

A physical map can also show elevation and relief. **Elevation** is the height of a physical feature above sea level. **Relief** is the change in elevation from one place to another. Maps show elevation by using color. The physical map at left uses seven colors for seven ranges of elevation.

Before You Move On

Monitor Comprehension How is a political map different from a physical map?

ONGOING ASSESSMENT

MAP LAB

GeoJournal

Critical Viewing The Sobaek Mountains cut diagonally across South Korea. Which map best indicates the location of these mountains?

- 1. Interpret Maps** What is the most mountainous country in East Asia? How did you find the answer?
- 2. Human-Environment Interaction** Based on elevations shown on the map, what economic activity would you expect to find on the North China Plain?
- 3. Draw Conclusions** What do the locations of Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Tokyo have in common? What conclusion can you draw about the location of cities around the world?