

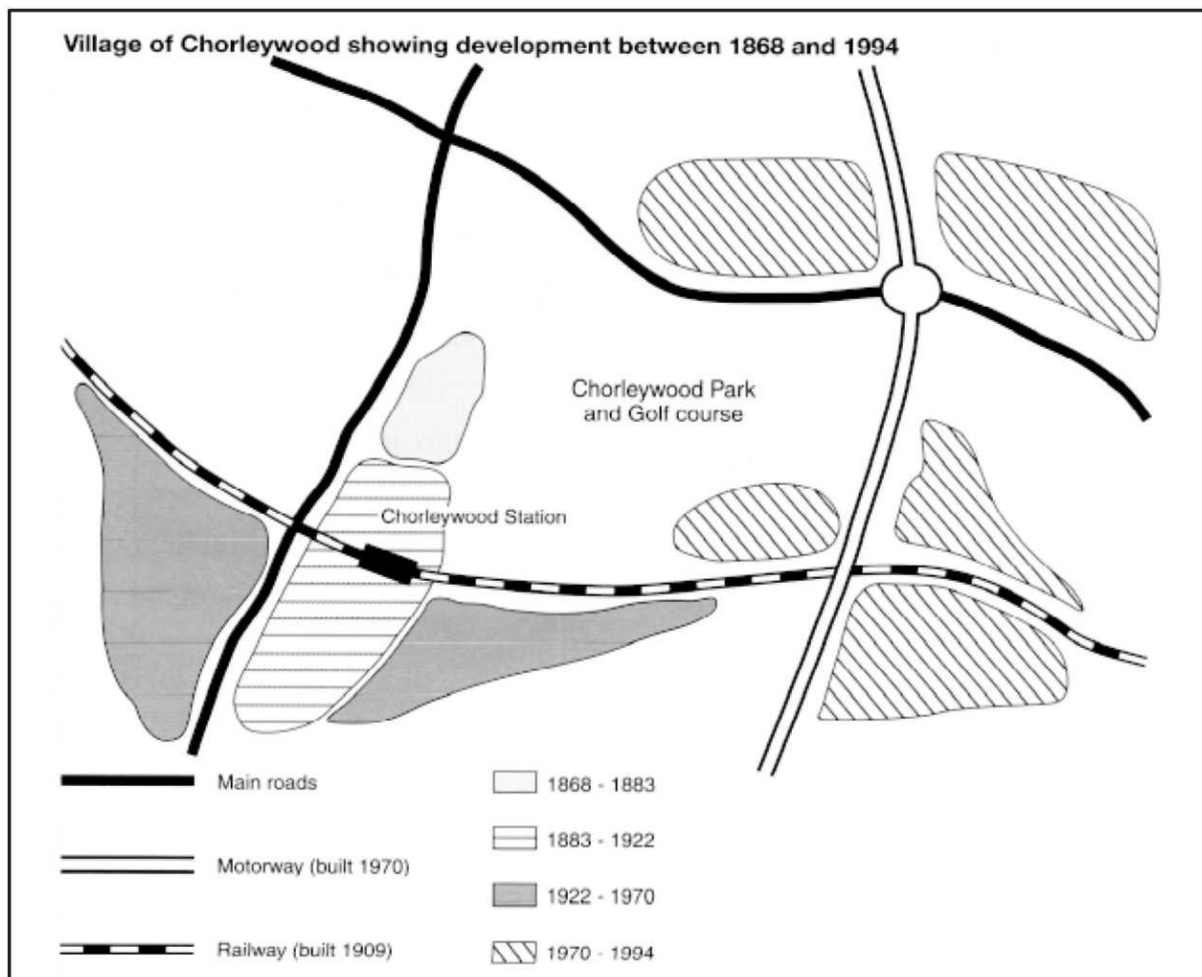
IELTS Writing Task 1 - Sample 'map' reports

On the following pages, you'll see three sample reports about three different types of map. All three reports are taken from lessons on my blog ielts-simon.com, so you may have seen them before.

I'm attaching these sample map reports to this video lesson to show you that maps are the same as any other type of diagram. Analyse the reports carefully, and compare them to the reports that I wrote in the video lessons about 'process' diagrams and 'comparison' diagrams. You should see that my approach / method is the same.

“Development map” - This is similar to a “process diagram” because your task is to describe stages. This question comes from Cambridge IELTS book 1.

Chorleywood is a village near London whose population has increased steadily since the middle of the 19th century. The map below shows the development of the village.



The map shows the growth of a village called Chorleywood between 1868 and 1994.

It is clear that the village grew as the transport infrastructure was improved. Four periods of development are shown on the map, and each of the populated areas is near to the main roads, the railway or the motorway.

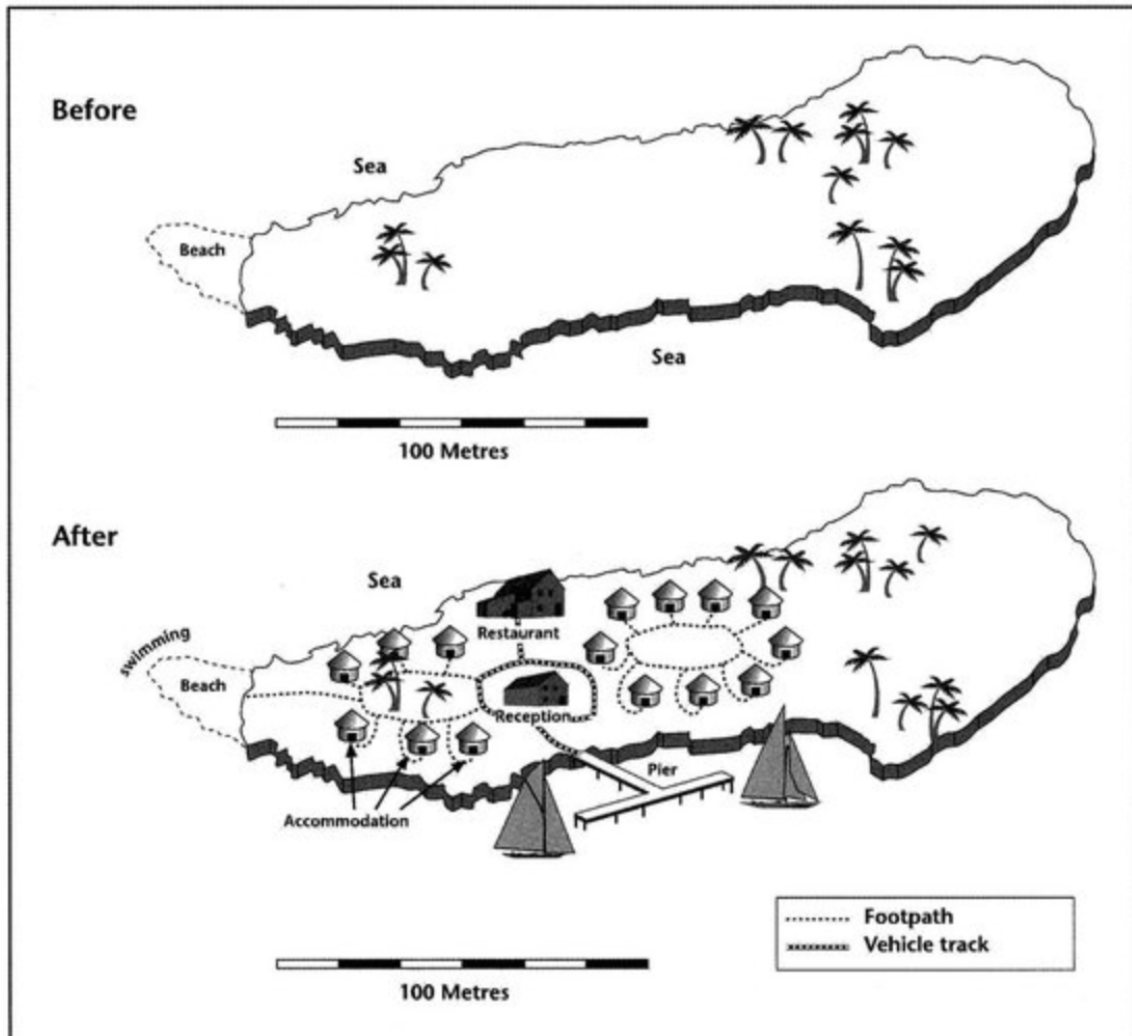
From 1868 to 1883, Chorleywood covered a small area next to one of the main roads. Chorleywood Park and Golf Course is now located next to this original village area. The village grew along the main road to the south between 1883 and 1922, and in 1909 a railway line was built crossing this area from west to east. Chorleywood station is in this part of the village.

The expansion of Chorleywood continued to the east and west alongside the railway line until 1970. At that time, a motorway was built to the east of the village, and from 1970 to 1994, further development of the village took place around motorway intersections with the railway and one of the main roads.

(174 words, band 9)

“Before and after map” - This is the same as a “before and after diagram” (see the lesson about “comparison diagrams”). This question comes from Cambridge IELTS book 9.

The two maps below show an island, before and after the construction of some tourist facilities.



The diagrams illustrate some changes to a small island which has been developed for tourism.

It is clear that the island has changed considerably with the introduction of tourism, and six new features can be seen in the second diagram. The main developments are that the island is accessible and visitors have somewhere to stay.

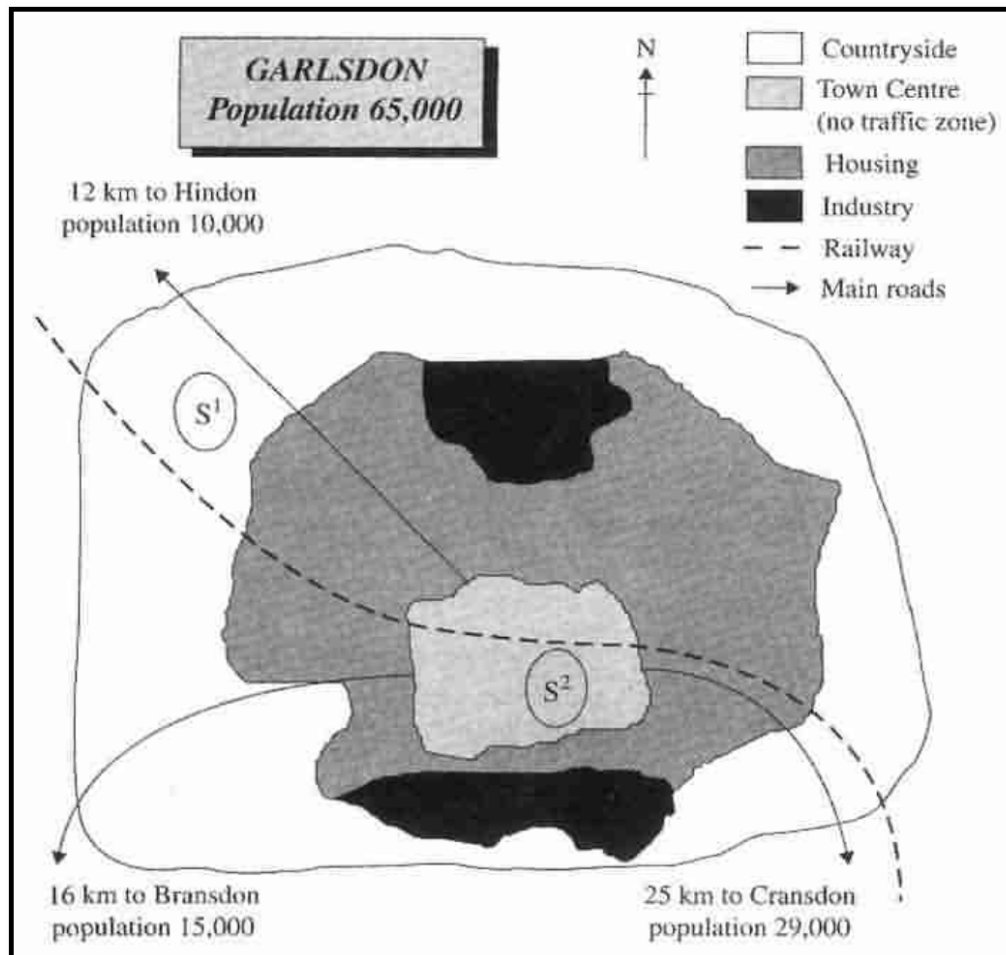
Looking at the maps in more detail, we can see that small huts have been built to accommodate visitors to the island. The other physical structures that have been added are a reception building, in the middle of the island, and a restaurant to the north of the reception. Before these developments, the island was completely bare apart from a few trees.

As well as the buildings mentioned above, the new facilities on the island include a pier, where boats can dock. There is also a short road linking the pier with the reception and restaurant, and footpaths connect the huts. Finally, there is a designated swimming area for tourists off a beach on the western tip of the island.

(175 words, band 9)

“Locations map” - This is similar to a “comparison diagram” because your task is to compare the locations. This question comes from Cambridge IELTS book 5.

The map below is of the town of Garlsdon. A new supermarket (S) is planned for the town. The map shows two possible sites for the supermarket.



The map shows two potential locations (S1 and S2) for a new supermarket in a town called Garlsdon.

The main difference between the two sites is that S1 is outside the town, whereas S2 is in the town centre. The sites can also be compared in terms of access by road or rail, and their positions relative to three smaller towns.

Looking at the information in more detail, S1 is in the countryside to the north west of Garlsdon, but it is close to the residential area of the town. S2 is also close to the housing area, which surrounds the town centre.

There are main roads from Hindon, Bransdon and Cransdon to Garlsdon town centre, but this is a no traffic zone, so there would be no access to S2 by car. By contrast, S1 lies on the main road to Hindon, but it would be more difficult to reach from Bransdon and Cransdon. Both supermarket sites are close to the railway that runs through Garlsdon from Hindon to Cransdon.

(171 words, band 9)