

Key to 1:50 000 map	
Populated area, Houses	
All weather road: Bound surface	
Dry weather road	
Main track (motorable)	
Other track and footpath	
Spot height (in metres)	
Contours (V.I. 20m)	
Watercourse, Waterfall, Rapids, Dam	
Water tank	
Scrub	
Police post	
School	
Telephone	

Representing height

To represent height on a map, spot heights and contours are used.

Spot heights are dots placed anywhere on the map with a number next to them. This tells us the exact height of that spot in metres above sea level. Sometimes spot heights show the highest part of a hill, but they can show any height, anywhere on the map.

Contours are brown lines on a map that join together places of equal height. These can be used to work out what the relief of the land is like (its height and shape).

Conflict over water in Kenya

Kenya is a country in East Africa which, in many regions, relies on agriculture. Most of the land in the valley of the Ewaso Kedong river is used for grazing cattle, but like many other parts of the country there is not enough water available.

Water shortages have resulted in conflict in various parts of the country as people fight over this scarce commodity. The amount of water in the Ewaso Kedong river has been reduced because of drought. The Maasai, who live downstream, claim that farmers upstream are using the river water for irrigation, thereby reducing the supply for themselves and their animals.

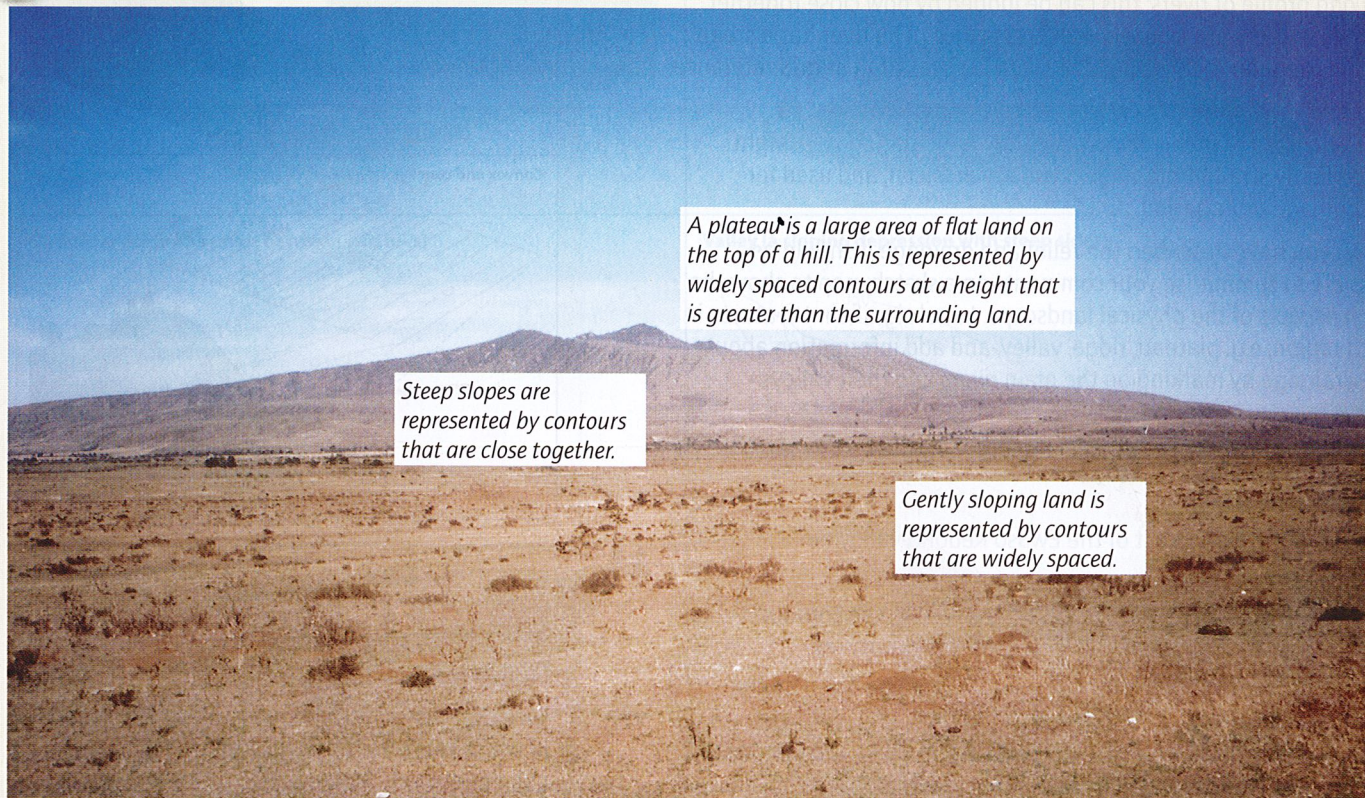
Task 1

Study the 1:50 000 map extract and Source A.

Give a 4-figure reference for a grid square for each of the following.

- Steep slopes between 1700 and 1800 metres above sea level
- A plateau above 1800 metres high
- A gentle slope between 1640 and 1660 metres above sea level

A landscape in Kenya



A plateau is a large area of flat land on the top of a hill. This is represented by widely spaced contours at a height that is greater than the surrounding land.

Steep slopes are represented by contours that are close together.

Gently sloping land is represented by contours that are widely spaced.