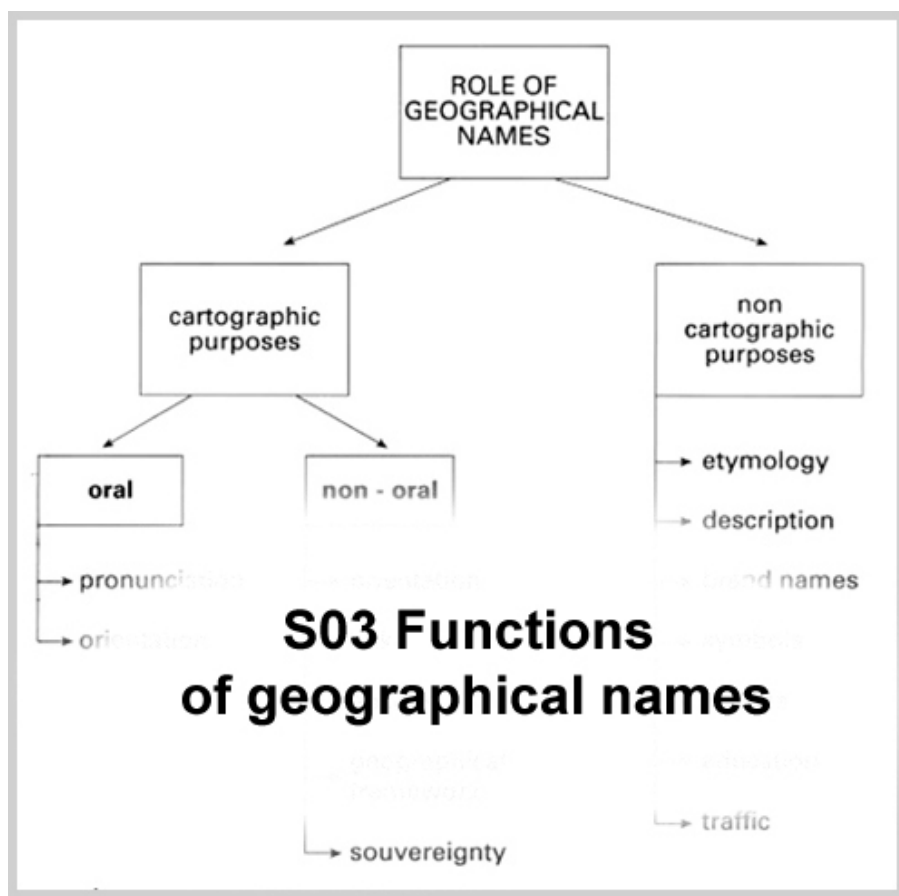


[next>](#)

[Home](#)
|
[Selfstudy](#)
:
[Functions of geographical names](#)
|
[Contents](#)
|
[Intro](#)
|
[1.Role of geographical names](#)
|
[2.Names are links](#)
|
[3.Systems of spatial links](#)
|
[4. Standardization](#)
|
[5.Oral communication](#)
|
[6.Names as links](#)
|
[7.Bi-scriptual rendering](#)
|
[8.Role of geographical names](#)
|
[9.Use of names \(a/b\)](#)
|
[10. Anthroponyms](#)

[next>](#)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<previous - next>

The content of this module is based on teaching materials by Ferjan Ormeling. These teaching materials are made available in the "[documents](#)" section.

The module contains the following chapters:

[Introduction](#)[Chapter 1: **Role**](#) of geographical names[Chapter 2: **Names are links**](#) in non-oral communication[Chapter 3: Systems of **spatial links**](#)[Chapter 4: **Standardization**](#)[Chapter 5: Role of geographical names - **oral communication**](#)[Chapter 6: **Names as links**](#) in oral communication[Chapter 7: An example for **bi-scriptual rendering**](#) of place names[Chapter 8: **Role of geographical names**](#) - non cartographic purposes[Chapter 9: **Use of names**](#) for non-cartographic purposes[Chapter 10: **Anthroponyms**](#)

When reading through the following pages, you will come across some uncommon terms. These terms are hyperlinked to the UNGEGN [Glossary of Terminology \(pdf\)](#). Behind each term a number (#) is given that corresponds to the numbering applied in this glossary, e.g. [toponymy](#) (#344).

For exercises and documents (and literature) on this topic see respectively the "[Exercises](#)" and/or the "[Documents](#)" section of this module.

The complete module can be downloaded [here](#).

[Home](#)[Selfstudy](#)[Functions of geographical names](#)[Contents](#)[Intro](#)[1.Role of geographical names](#)[2.Names are links](#)[3.Systems of spatial links](#)[4. Standardization](#)[5.Oral communication](#)[6.Names as links](#)[7.Bi-scriptual rendering](#)[8.Role of geographical names](#)[9.Use of names \(a/b\)](#)[10. Anthroponyms](#)

<previous - next>

INTRODUCTION

[<previous](#) - [next>](#)

13th century

1270

1500

In the 13th century, a fishermen's village developed at the place where the river Amstel entered the IJ estuary. Later on, to prevent floods, dikes were built to protect the coast south of the IJ, and a dam with sluices was built in the river Amstel. This dam of the River Amstel gave the name to this fishermen's village. Even after it developed into a town, it still was called after the dam in the River Amstel.

Amstel + dam = Amsteldam or Amsterdam

Home
|
Selfstudy
:
[Functions of geographical names](#)
|
[Contents](#)
|
[Intro](#)
|
[1.Role of geographical names](#)
|
[2.Names are links](#)
|
[3.Systems of spatial links](#)
|
[4. Standardization](#)
|
[5.Oral communication](#)
|
[6.Names as links](#)
|
[7.Bi-scriptual rendering](#)
|
[8.Role of geographical names](#)
|
[9.Use of names \(a/b\)](#)
|
[10. Anthroponyms](#)

[<previous](#) - [next>](#)

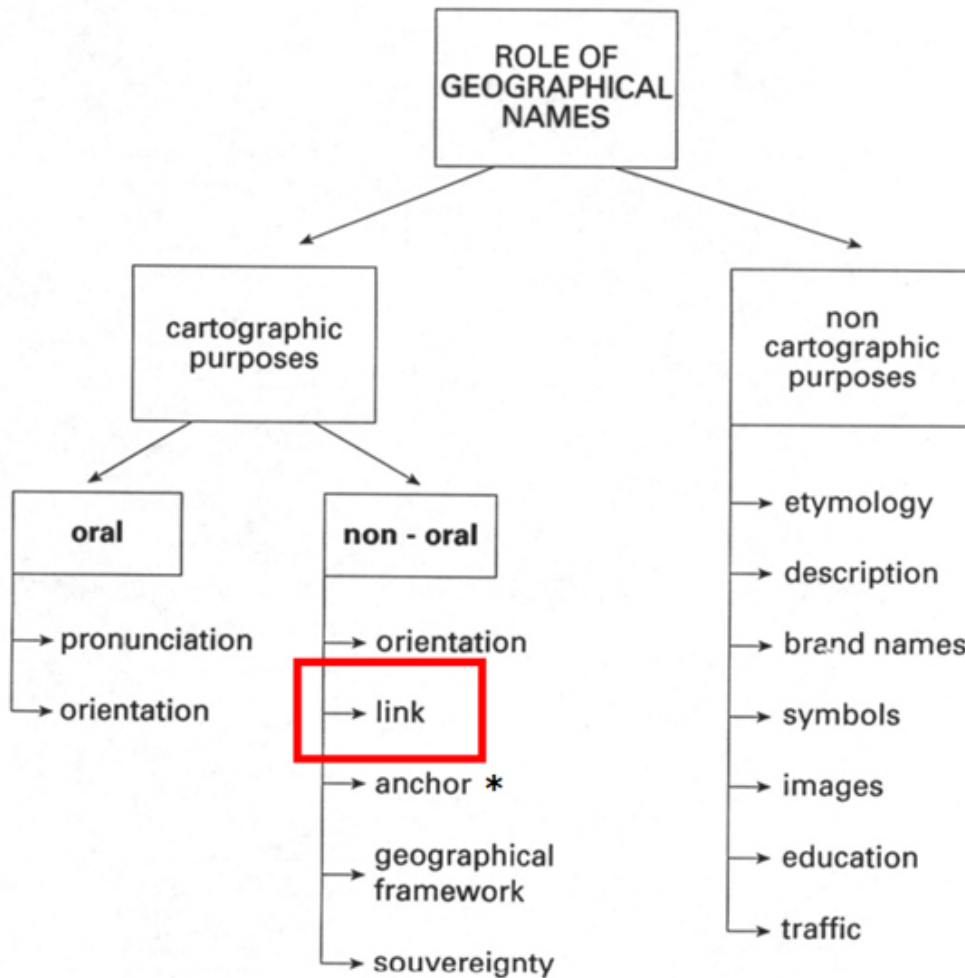
1. ROLE OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES - THEY LINK US TO GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES

<previous - next>



The names serve as labels that can be used for:

- Orientation, Navigation, reference points
- Linking us to the landscape
- Proper pronunciation of geographical names, which provides links to the inhabitants
- Linking to other documents/files
- And see next page: names link different maps



* With a geographical name, we anchor some feature in geographical reality.

Home
|
Selfstudy
:
Functions of geographical names
|
Contents
|
Intro
|
1.Role of geographical names
|
2.Names are links
|
3.Systems of spatial links
|
4. Standardization
|
5.Oral communication
|
6.Names as links
|
7.Bi-scriptual rendering
|
8.Role of geographical names
|
9.Use of names (a/b)
|
10. Anthroponyms

<previous - next>

2. NAMES ARE LINKS IN NON-ORAL COMMUNICATION

[<previous](#) - [next>](#)

Names are like addresses, they can connect various data sets. On this map we can see that Mandalay has in between 500 000 and 1 million inhabitants. On the right, we see that Mandalay lies above 200 m.

Topographic map



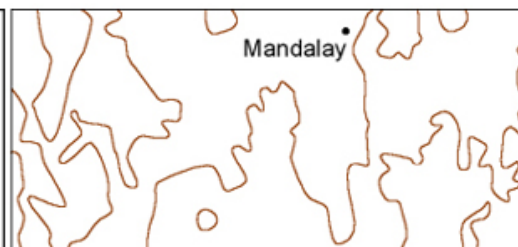
Contourline map



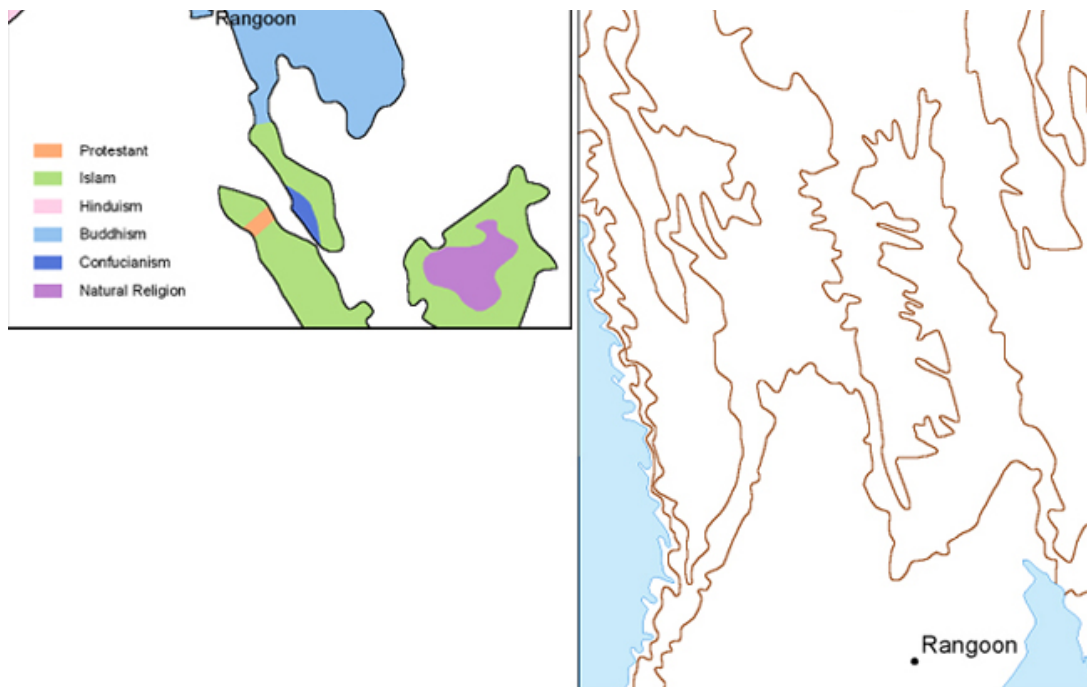
Religion map



Contourline map



[Home](#)
 |
[Selfstudy](#)
 :
[Functions of geographical names](#)
 |
[Contents](#)
 |
[Intro](#)
 |
[1.Role of geographical names](#)
 |
[2.Names are links](#)
 |
[3.Systems of spatial links](#)
 |
[4. Standardization](#)
 |
[5.Oral communication](#)
 |
[6.Names as links](#)
 |
[7.Bi-scriptual rendering](#)
 |
[8.Role of geographical names](#)
 |
[9.Use of names \(a/b\)](#)
 |
[10. Anthroponyms](#)



By comparing the names on the topomap or on the contourline map with those on the religion map, we can find the dominant religion for Mandalay.

Names as links in *Michelin Tourist Information System*:



The name (**Agde**) forms the link between the road map (yellow), the red guide (information on the hotels and restaurants) and the green guide (tourist information) in this Michelin Tourist Information System.

[<previous](#) - [next>](#)

2. NAMES ARE LINKS IN NON-ORAL COMMUNICATION

[<previous](#) - [next>](#)

Names are like addresses, they can connect various data sets. On this map we can see that Mandalay has in between 500 000 and 1 million inhabitants. On the right, we see that Mandalay lies above 200 m.

Topographic map



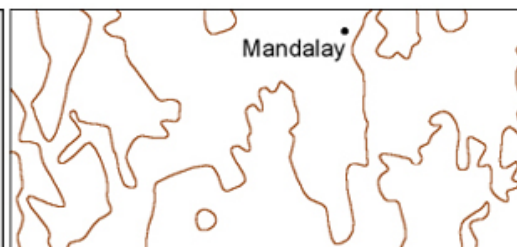
Contourline map

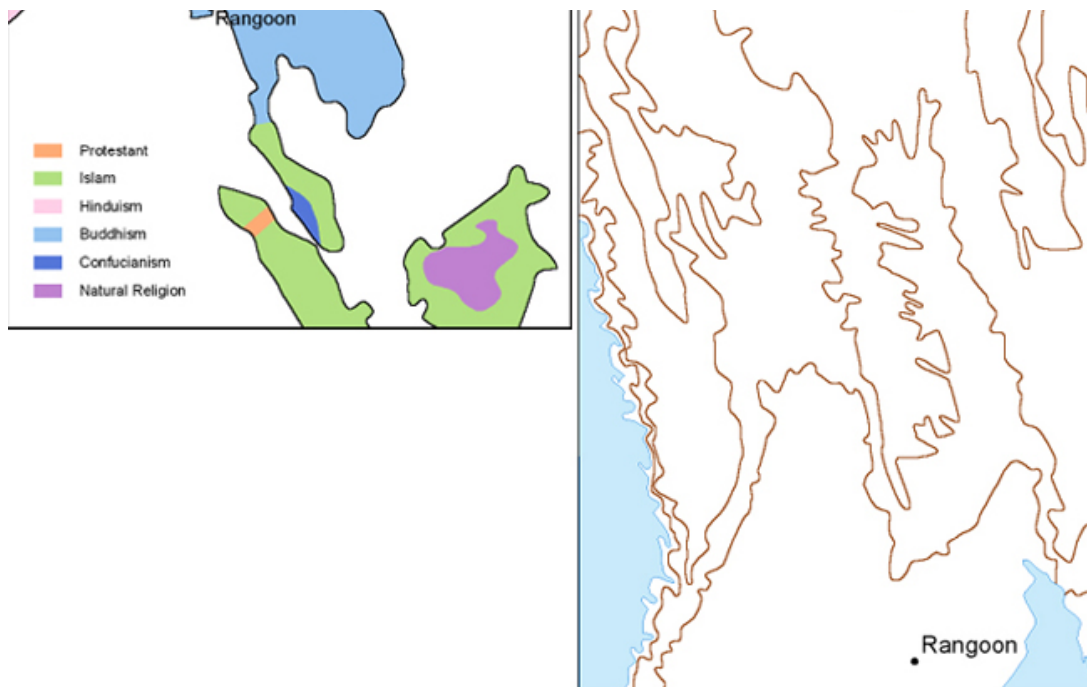


Religion map



Contourline map





By comparing the names on the topomap or on the contourline map with those on the religion map, we can find the dominant religion for Mandalay.

Names as links in *Michelin Tourist Information System*:



The name (**Agde**) forms the link between the road map (yellow), the red guide (information on the hotels and restaurants) and the green guide (tourist information) in this Michelin Tourist Information System.

[<previous](#) - [next>](#)

4. STANDARDIZATION

[<previous](#) - [next>](#)

But if we use names as links, they should be standardised!

HYACINTHSTRAAT	-
HYIJGENSSTRAAT	2
I B B LAAN	1
I B B-LAAN	7
I B BAKKERL	1
I B BAKKERLAAN	1
I B BAKKERLAAN#143	942
I B BAKKERLAAN#15	1
I B BAKKERLAAN#185	1
I B BAKKERLAAN#199	1
I B BAKKERLAAN#85	1
I B BAKKERLAAN#89	1
I B BAKKERSTRAAT	1
I DE BEKASTRAAT	1
I E DAALSEDIJK	2
I.B.BAKKERLAAN	1
IB BAKKERLAAN	14
IBBAKKERLAAN	1
IBISDREEF	4
IEPSTRAAT	4

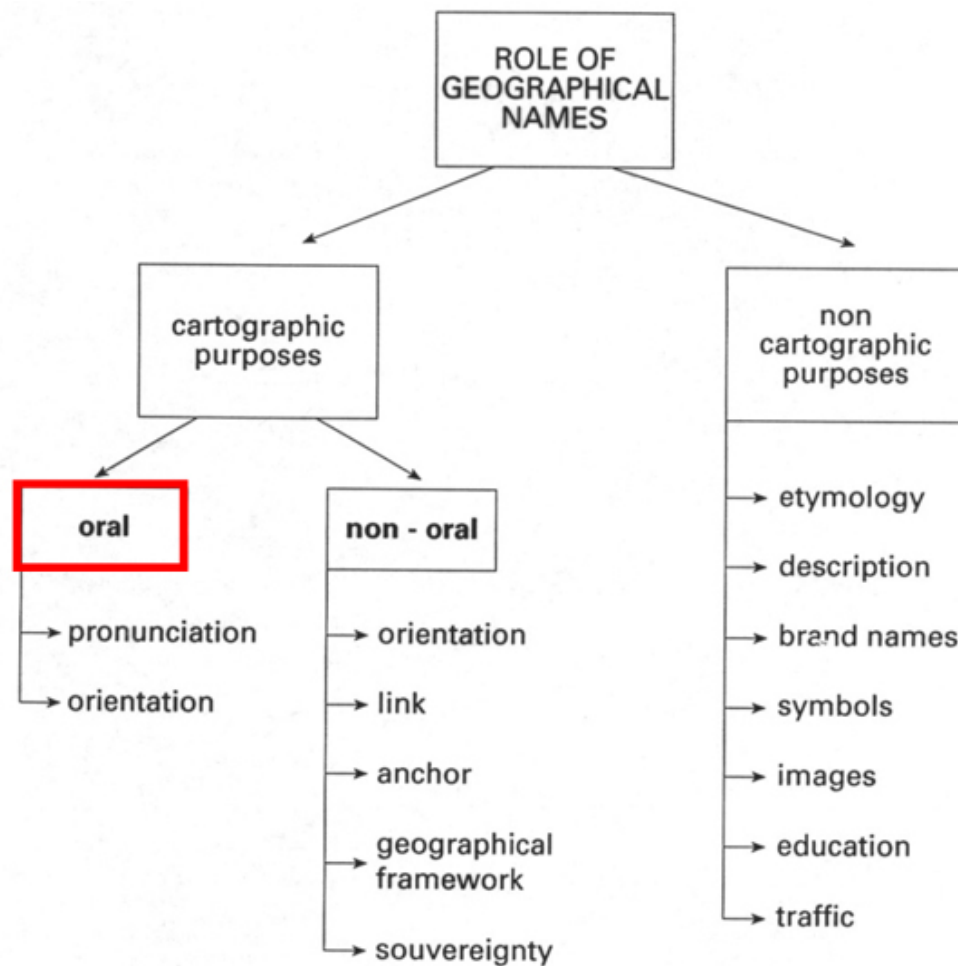
The same street address (**Ina Boudier Bakkerlaan**) is given in many different versions by the students that live there (from Urtecht University Student Registration file).

Home
Selfstudy
Functions of geographical names
Contents
Intro
1.Role of geographical names
2.Names are links
3.Systems of spatial links
4. Standardization
5.Oral communication
6.Names as links
7.Bi-scriptual rendering
8.Role of geographical names
9.Use of names (a/b)
10. Anthroponyms

[<previous](#) - [next>](#)

5. ROLE OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES - ORAL COMMUNICATION

<previous - next>



Home
|
[Selfstudy](#)
:
[Functions of geographical names](#)
|
[Contents](#)
|
[Intro](#)
|
[1.Role of geographical names](#)
|
[2.Names are links](#)
|
[3.Systems of spatial links](#)
|
[4. Standardization](#)
|
[5.Oral communication](#)
|
[6.Names as links](#)
|
[7.Bi-scriptual rendering](#)
|
[8.Role of geographical names](#)
|
[9.Use of names \(a/b\)](#)
|
[10. Anthroponyms](#)

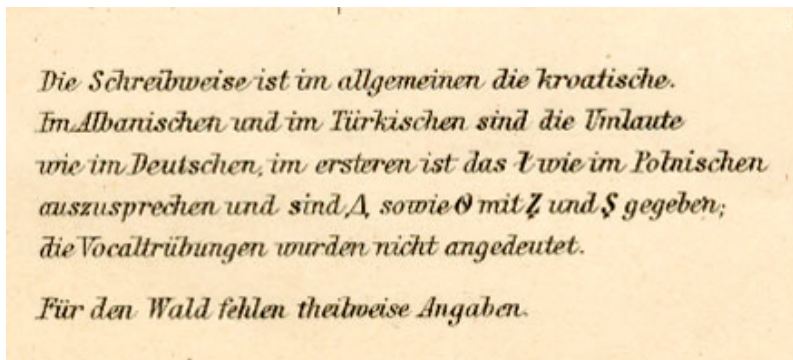
<previous - next>

6. NAMES AS LINKS IN ORAL COMMUNICATION

<previous - next>

Therefore we might need **pronunciation guides** or a **phonetic alphabet**.

Pronunciation help in the margin of Austrian map of Balkan area, circa 1900 AD:



Translation of the above text:

The notation/spelling is in general the Croat spelling. In Albanian and Turkish names the dieresis or umlaut is used as it is in German. In Albanian, the ¨ has to be pronounced as it is in Polish. The Greek letters Δ and Θ will be rendered by Z and S.

Pronunciation help with International phonetic Alphabet (IPA), see also [chapter 5 on Field Collection Systems](#) (from a school atlas index).

PLACE (Pronunciation)	PAGE	Lat. °	Long. °
Presidente Roosevelt, Estação, trans., Braz.	230d	23.33s	46.36w
Presidio, Tx., U.S. (prě-sĩ'dĩ-ô)	106	29.33N	104.23W
Presidio, Río del, r., Mex. (rě'ô-děł-prě-sě'dyô)	112	23.54N	105.44W
Presidio of San Francisco, pt. of i., Ca., U.S.	227b	37.48N	122.28W



Home
Selfstudy
Functions of geographical names
Contents
Intro
1.Role of geographical names
2.Names are links
3.Systems of spatial links
4. Standardization
5.Oral communication
6.Names as links
7.Bi-scriptual rendering
8.Role of geographical names
9.Use of names (a/b)
10. Anthroponyms

Prešov, Czech. (prě'shôf)	140	49.00N	21.18 E
Prespa, Lake, I., Eur. (prěs'pă)	154	40.49N	20.50 E
Prespuntal, r., Ven.	125b	9.55N	64.32W
Presque Isle, Me., U.S. (prěsk'el')	86	46.41N	68.03W
Preßbaum, Aus.	139e	48.12N	16.06 E
Prestea, Ghana	208	5.27N	2.08W
Preston, Austl.	195a	37.45S	145.01 E
Preston, Eng., U.K. (prěs'tŭn)	144	53.46N	2.42W
Preston, Id., U.S. (pres'tŭn)	98	42.05N	111.54W
Preston, Mn., U.S. (prěs'tŭn)	96	43.42N	92.06W
Preston, Wa., U.S.	100a	47.31N	121.56W
Prestonburg, Ky., U.S. (prěs'tŭn-bŭrg)	92	37.35N	82.50W
Prestwich, Eng., U.K. (prěst'wĭch)	138a	53.32N	2.17W
Pretoria, S. Afr. (prě-tô'rĭ-ă)	206	25.43S	28.16 E

Olenjok, Fluß und Ort (UdSSR, Sibirien)	alinʹok
Oléron, Insel (Frankreich)	olerɔŋg
Oleśnica (Polen)	ɔləʃnitʃa
Olewska (UdSSR, Ukraine)	alʲäʃbk
Olib, Insel (Jugoslawien)	ɔlip
Oljokma, Fluß (UdSSR, Sibirien)	alʲokmʲa

<previous - next>

7. AN EXAMPLE FOR BI-SCRIPTUAL RENDERING OF PLACE NAMES

<previous - next>

In the case of a tourist map of Greece:



Bilingual rendering of names needed: tourists should be able to pronounce the names (Roman alphabet) and tourists should be able to recognise the road signs (Greek alphabet).

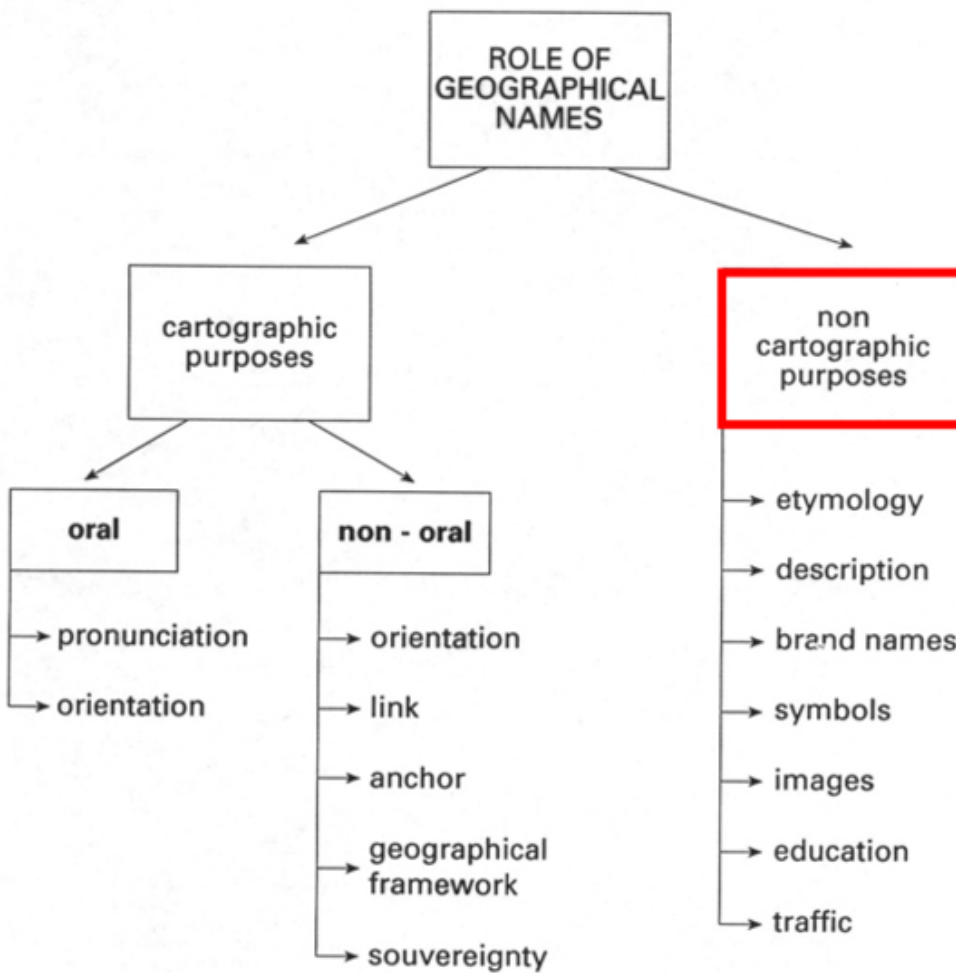


- [Home](#)
- [Selfstudy](#)
- [:](#)
- [Functions of geographical names](#)
- [Contents](#)
- [Intro](#)
- [1.Role of geographical names](#)
- [2.Names are links](#)
- [3.Systems of spatial links](#)
- [4. Standardization](#)
- [5.Oral communication](#)
- [6.Names as links](#)
- [7.Bi-scriptual rendering](#)
- [8.Role of geographical names](#)
- [9.Use of names \(a/b\)](#)
- [10. Anthroponyms](#)

<previous - next>

8. ROLE OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES - NON CARTOGRAPHIC PURPOSES

<previous - next>



Home
|
[Selfstudy](#)
:
[Functions of geographical names](#)
|
[Contents](#)
|
[Intro](#)
|
[1.Role of geographical names](#)
|
[2.Names are links](#)
|
[3.Systems of spatial links](#)
|
[4. Standardization](#)
|
[5.Oral communication](#)
|
[6.Names as links](#)
|
[7.Bi-scriptual rendering](#)
|
[8.Role of geographical names](#)
|
[9.Use of names \(a/b\)](#)
|
[10. Anthroponyms](#)

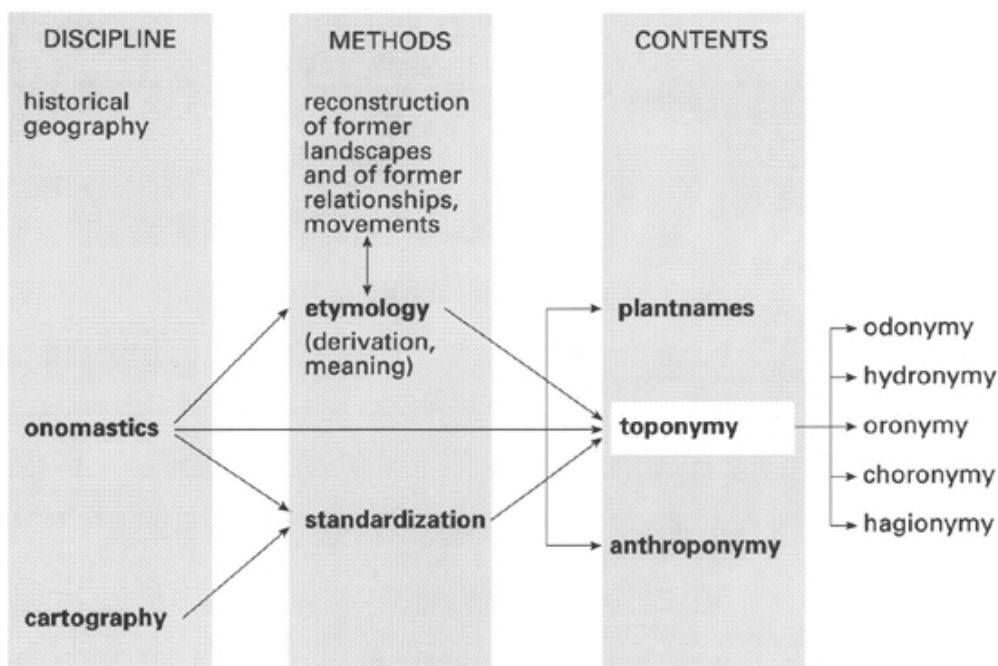
<previous - next>

9. USE OF NAMES FOR NON-CARTOGRAPHIC PURPOSES

[<previous](#) - [next>](#)



- Etymology (study of the derivation or meaning of words and names)
- Descriptive names
- Use of geographical names as brand names
- Use of names as symbols
- Use of names for educational purposes
- Use of names for traffic/transportation (bus stops, train stations)
- Use of names as a symbol for sovereignty



Discipline = these are the disciplines that study names.

Toponymy refers to:

Odonymy: road names

Hydronymy: water names

Oronymy: mountain names

Choronymy: names of regions

Hagionymy: places named after saints

and to proper place names

[<previous](#) - [next>](#)

- [Home](#)
- [Selfstudy](#)
- [Functions of geographical names](#)
- [Contents](#)
- [Intro](#)
- [1.Role of geographical names](#)
- [2.Names are links](#)
- [3.Systems of spatial links](#)
- [4. Standardization](#)
- [5.Oral communication](#)
- [6.Names as links](#)
- [7.Bi-scriptual rendering](#)
- [8.Role of geographical names](#)
- [9.Use of names \(a/b\)](#)
- [10. Anthroponyms](#)



9. USE OF NAMES FOR NON-CARTOGRAPHIC PURPOSES - CONTINUED

<previous - next>



- Etymology

An example:

Nether = low, so Netherlands = Lowlands = Nederland

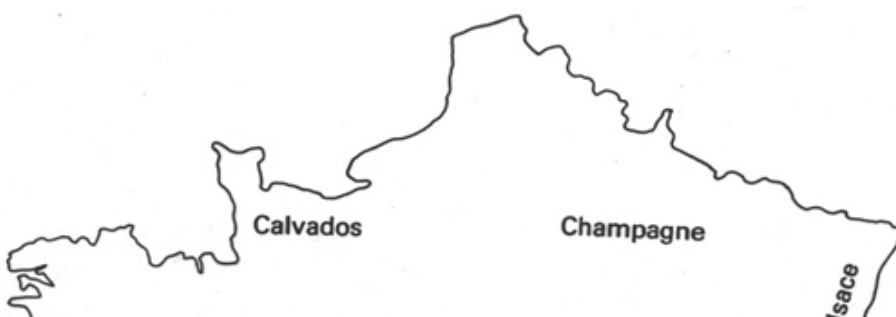
In the Netherlands lived two tribes in Roman times (50 AD), the Batavi and the Belgae. Around 1600 the federation of northern provinces were called in Latin: Belgium Foederatum. Around 1800 AD the Northern part of the Netherlands was called Batavian Republic, its main headquarter overseas was called Batavia; when the Southern part of the Netherlands became independent in 1830 it called itself after the other tribe, Belgium.

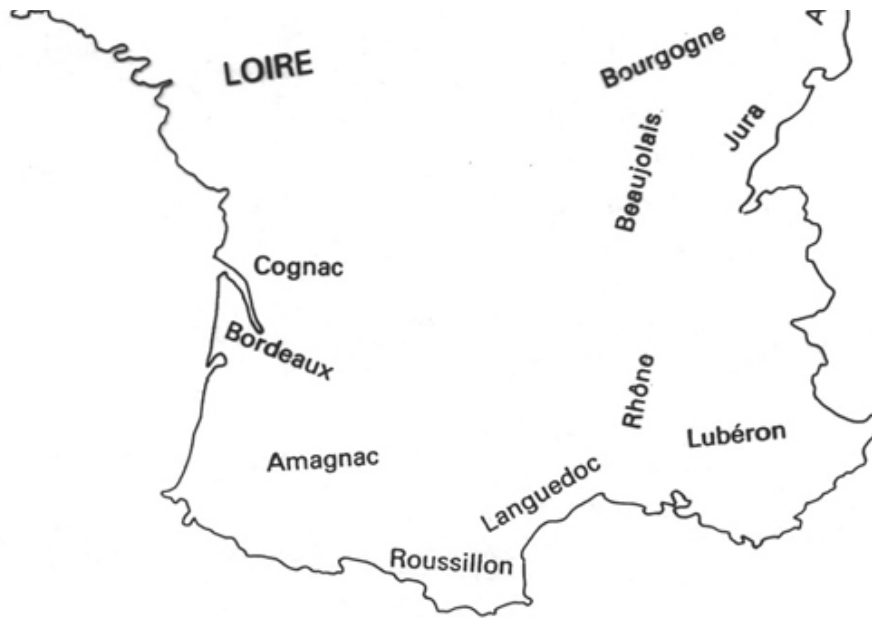
- Descriptive names



- Use of geographical names as brand names

Different types of wine, cheese or liquor are called after the region where they are produced:


[Home](#)
[Selfstudy](#)
[Functions of geographical names](#)
[Contents](#)
[Intro](#)
[1.Role of geographical names](#)
[2.Names are links](#)
[3.Systems of spatial links](#)
[4. Standardization](#)
[5.Oral communication](#)
[6.Names as links](#)
[7.Bi-scriptual rendering](#)
[8.Role of geographical names](#)
[9.Use of names \(a/b\)](#)
[10. Anthroponyms](#)



- **Use of names as symbols**

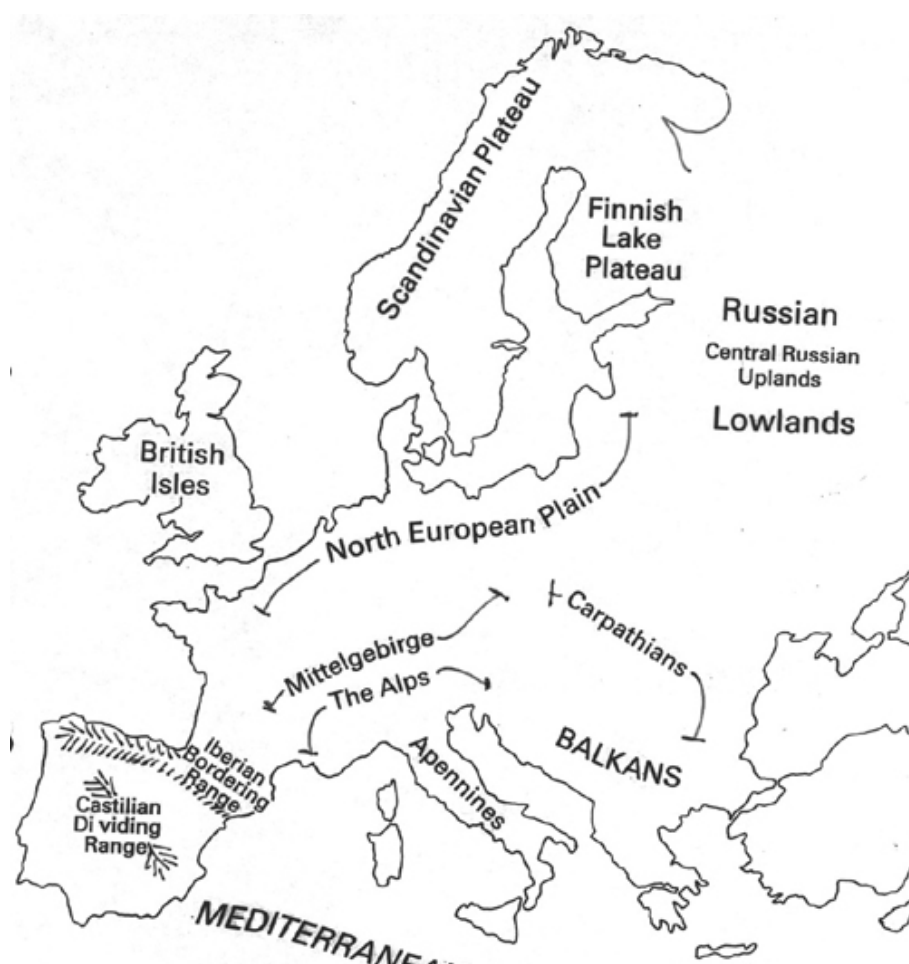
- *Rome* = empire
- *Bonn, Pankow* = cold war
- *Stalingrad, Vietnam* = battles
- *Trianon, Saint Germain* = traumatic peace treaties
- *Bali* = tropical paradise
- *Paris* = city of light, city of style
- *Venice* = water-city
- *Siberia* = inaccessible



The name **Bali** is the symbol for a tourist paradise. Because of a bomb attack, it refers now to a threatened paradise.

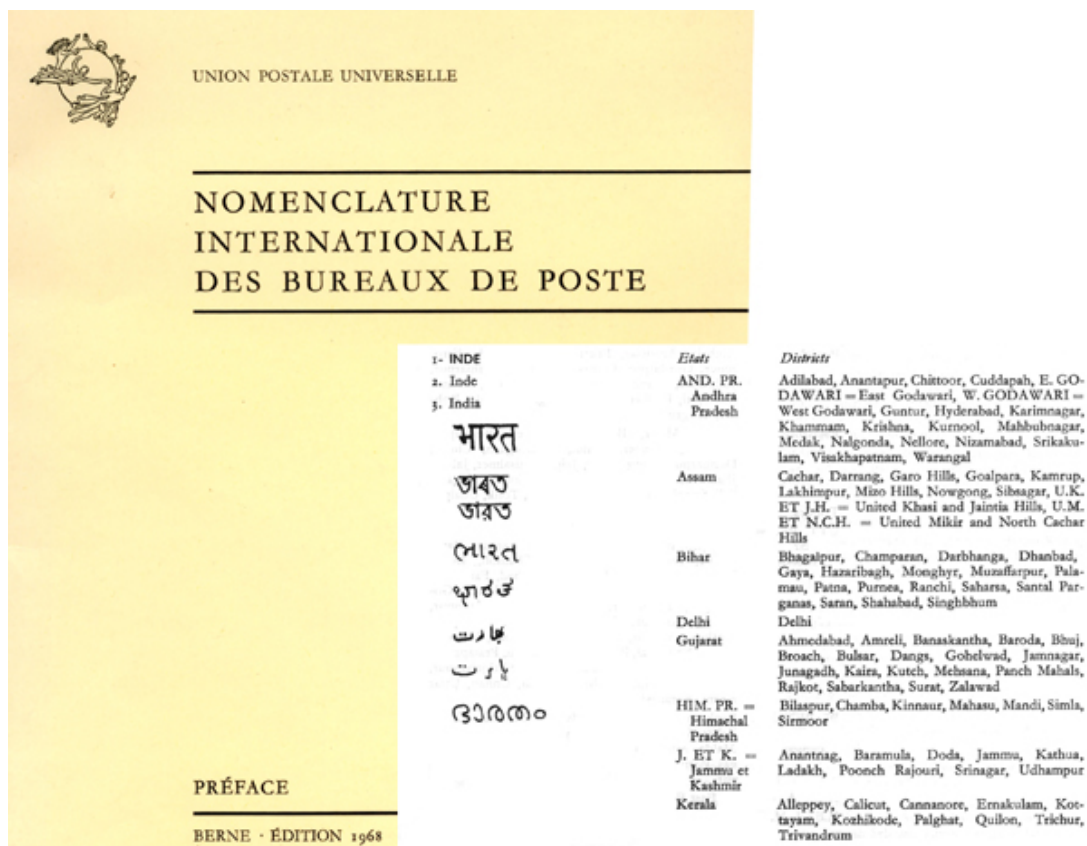
- **Use of names for educational purposes**

Educational names are used in order to explain topography and not for reference purposes:



- **Use of names for traffic/transportation**

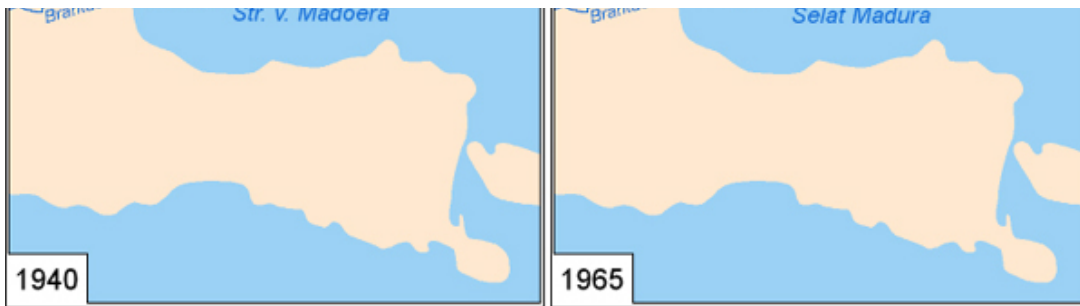
Names of bus stops, train stations or post offices are standardised because they also figure in time tables or lists of telegraph offices where telegrams used to be sent. It was so important that no ambiguity existed in the spelling of these names, that they were the earliest to be standardised.



Dictionnaire des bureaux de poste:
All the post offices in the world are listed in their proper spelling.

- **Use of names as a symbol for sovereignty**





Decolonisation of African place names: red names are former colonial names.

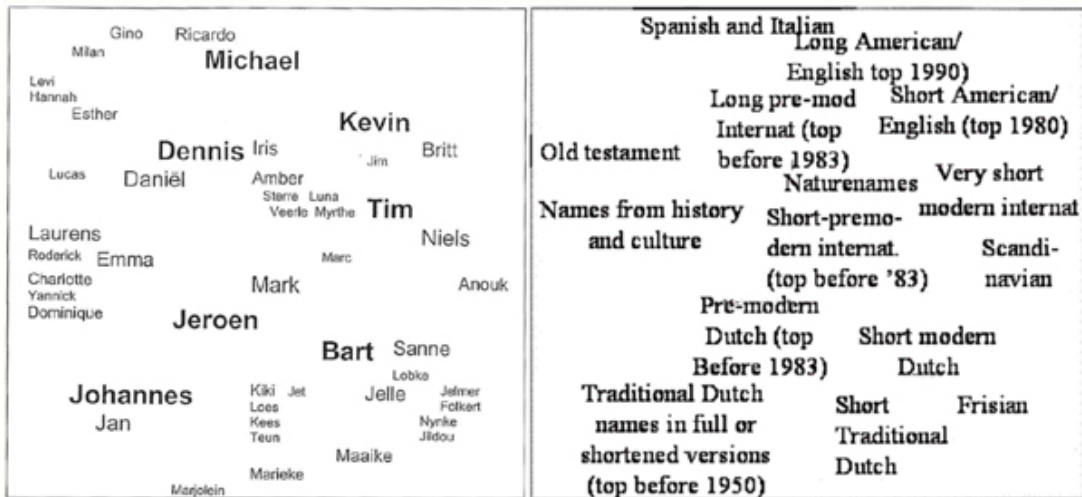


[<previous](#) - [next>](#)

10. ANTHROPONYMS

[<previous](#)

Given names in the Netherlands (1983 - 1998) and the legend:



Forenames or given names are subject to trends: one year parents may name their children after football stars or after successful politicians, and the other year they may prefer more traditional names. The illustration at left shows e.g. that before 1950 in the Netherlands traditional Dutch names were given, in either full or shortened versions, like Johannes/Jan.

[Home](#)[Selfstudy](#)[Functions of geographical names](#)[Contents](#)[Intro](#)[1.Role of geographical names](#)[2.Names as links](#)[3.Systems of spatial links](#)[4. Standardization](#)[5.Oral communication](#)[6.Names as links](#)[7.Bi-scriptual rendering](#)[8.Role of geographical names](#)[9.Use of names \(a/b\)](#)[10. Anthroponyms](#)[<previous](#)

AVAILABLE EXERCISES

[next>](#)

Exercise 1: [Some definitions](#)

Exercise 2: [Reasoning behind sea names](#)



[Home](#)
|
[Exercises](#)
:
[Functions of geographical names](#)
|
[1. Some definitions](#)
|
[2. Reasoning behind sea names](#)

[next>](#)

EXERCISE 1: SOME DEFINITIONS

[<previous](#) - [next>](#)

1. What is a multiscriptual map? Give an example!
2. What is an epotonym? Give an example!

TIP: Use the UNGEGN [Glossary of Terminology](#) (pdf).



[Home](#)
|
[Exercises](#)
:
[Functions of geographical names](#)
|
[1. Some definitions](#)
|
[2. Reasoning behind sea names](#)

[Answers](#)[<previous](#) - [next>](#)

EXERCISE 1: SOME DEFINITIONS- ANSWERS

[<back to exercise 1](#)

1. A multiscriptual map is a map on which different scripts are used together.
2. An eponym is a geographical name called after a person. Give some examples from your country!

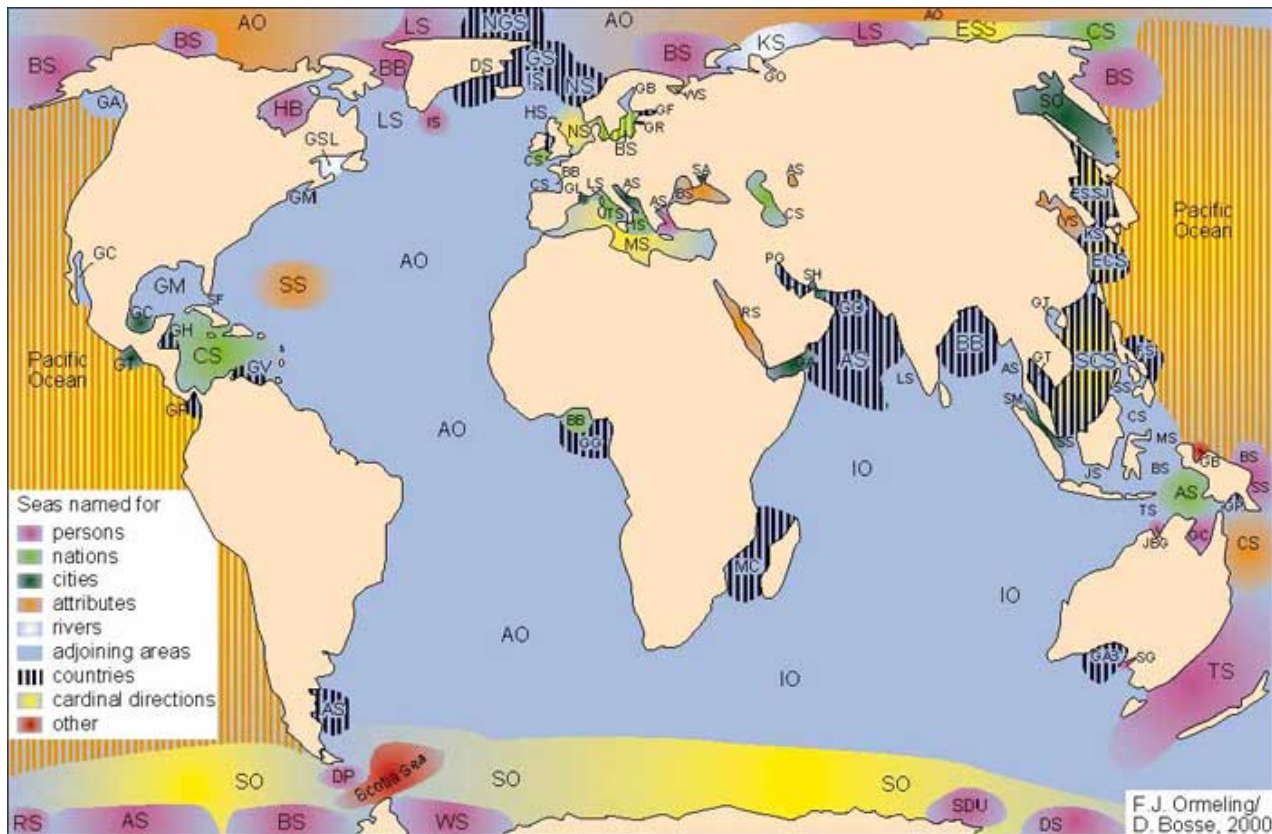


[Home](#)
|
[Exercises](#)
:
[Functions of geographical names](#)
|
[1. Some definitions](#)
|
[2. Reasoning behind sea names](#)

EXERCISE 2: REASONING BEHIND SEA NAMES

[<previous](#)

Work out what some the seas indicated on the map were named for.

[Home](#)[Exercises](#)[Functions of geographical names](#)[1. Some definitions](#)[2. Reasoning behind sea names](#)[Answers](#)[<previous](#)

EXERCISE 2: REASONING BEHIND THE SEA NAMES- ANSWERS

[<back to exercise 2](#)[Home](#)[Exercises](#)[Functions of geographical names](#)[1. Some definitions](#)[2. Reasoning behind sea names](#)

Atlantic Ocean named for the isle of Atlas, Atlantis, which was submerged in that ocean.

The Indian Ocean was called after India.

The Pacific ocean was called after the calm weather the first European navigators encountered there. The Caribbean was called after the Carib Indians that used to live on its shores. The Tasman Sea was called after the Dutchman Tasman, the first European explorer that sailed through it.

The Caribbean was called after the Carib Indians that used to live on its shores.

The Tasman Sea was called after the Dutchman tasman, the first European explorer that sailed through it, etc.

DOCUMENTS AND LITERATURE



[Home](#)
|
[Documents](#)
:
[Functions of geographical names](#)

Available documents:

- [D03-01](#): Ormeling, F.J. (2003). *Functions of geographical names for cartographic and non-cartographic purposes*. Pp 29-35 in F.Ormeling e.a. Training Course on Toponymy Enschede, Frankfurt am Main, Berlin 2002. Mitteilungen des BKG Band 28, Frankfurt am Main 2003.
- [D03-02](#): Ormeling, F. (2000). *Sea Names Categories and Their Implications* *Journal of Geography Education*, 44, 54-61, 2000.

Literature:

- Monmonier, M. (2006). *From Squaw's Tit to Whorehouse Meadow*. University of Chicago Press.

Online resources:

- Wikipedia: [Place name origins](#) in English-speaking countries

The United Nations sell the following publications which also can be downloaded from the [UNGEGN](#) website:

- [Glossary](#) of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names (New York 2002) / [pdf](#)
- [Manual](#) for the national standardization of geographical names (UN - Ecosoc, New York, 2006 ST/ESA/STAT/SERM/88 Sales No. E.06.XVII.7 ISBN 92-1-161490-2, available in the 6 UN languages) / [pdf](#)
- [Technical reference manual](#) for the standardization of geographical names (New York, 2007) / [pdf](#)
- [Resolutions](#) adopted at the nine UN Conferences on the standardization of geographical names ([English \(pdf\)](#) / [French \(pdf\)](#))