

BE A GEOGRAPHER

Interpret a relief map of the world

A world relief map shows the main features of continental and coastal relief on the planet. (2)

How to do it

Consider the following aspects:

- **Altimetry.** This shows the elevation of the land. It is represented in different colours:
 - Purple tones show the highest land on the map.
 - Yellow, orange and brown tones represent the intermediate elevations.
 - Green tones indicate the lowest land.
- **Labels.** This is the text that is written on the map.

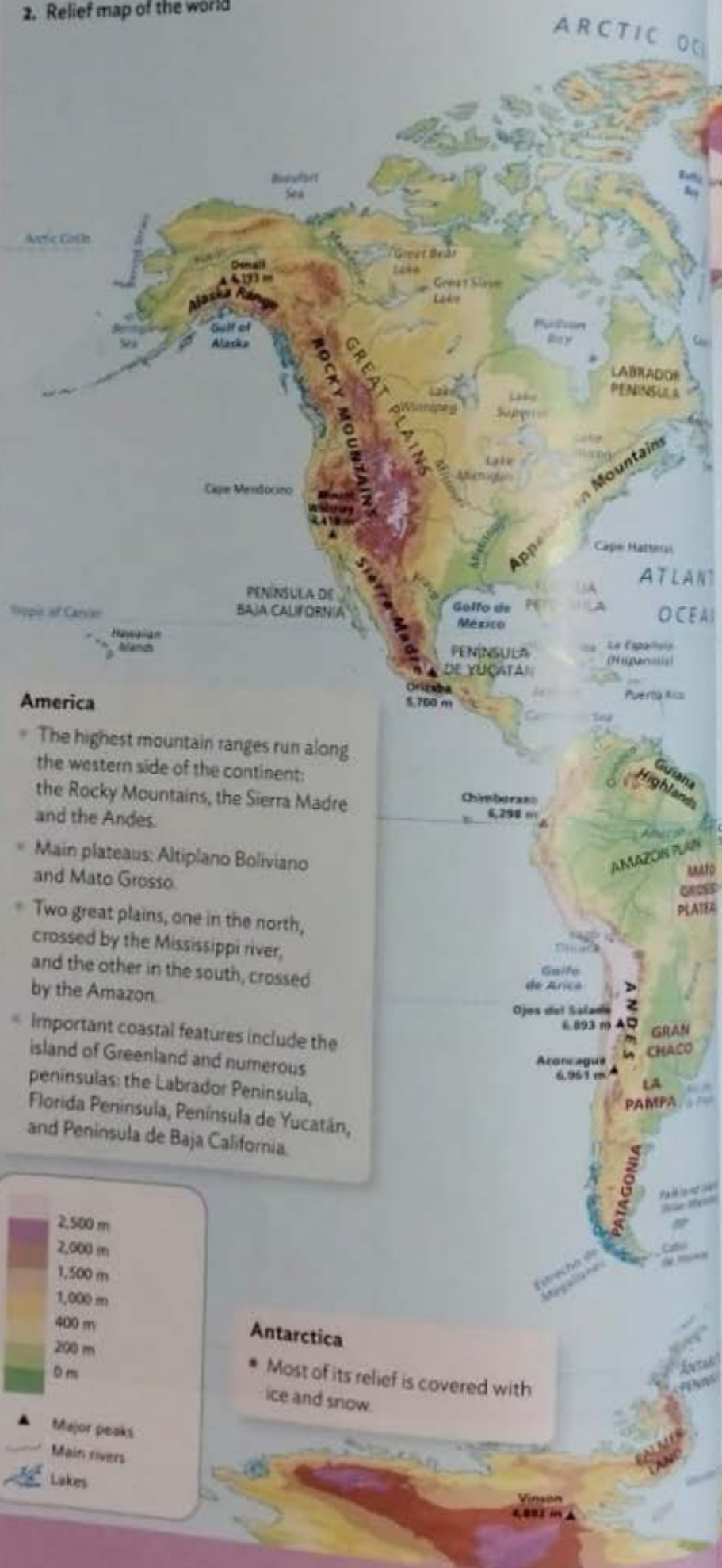
Your turn

- **Name** the highest mountain peak on each continent and the mountain range it belongs to.
- **Look at America.** On which part of the continent are the highest mountains?
- **Copy and complete** the table with examples.

	ISLANDS	PENINSULAS	CAVES
Africa			
America			
Asia			
Europe			
Oceania			

- If you travelled in a straight line from the North Cape to the Cape of Good Hope, which features of coastal and continental relief would you cross?

2. Relief map of the world

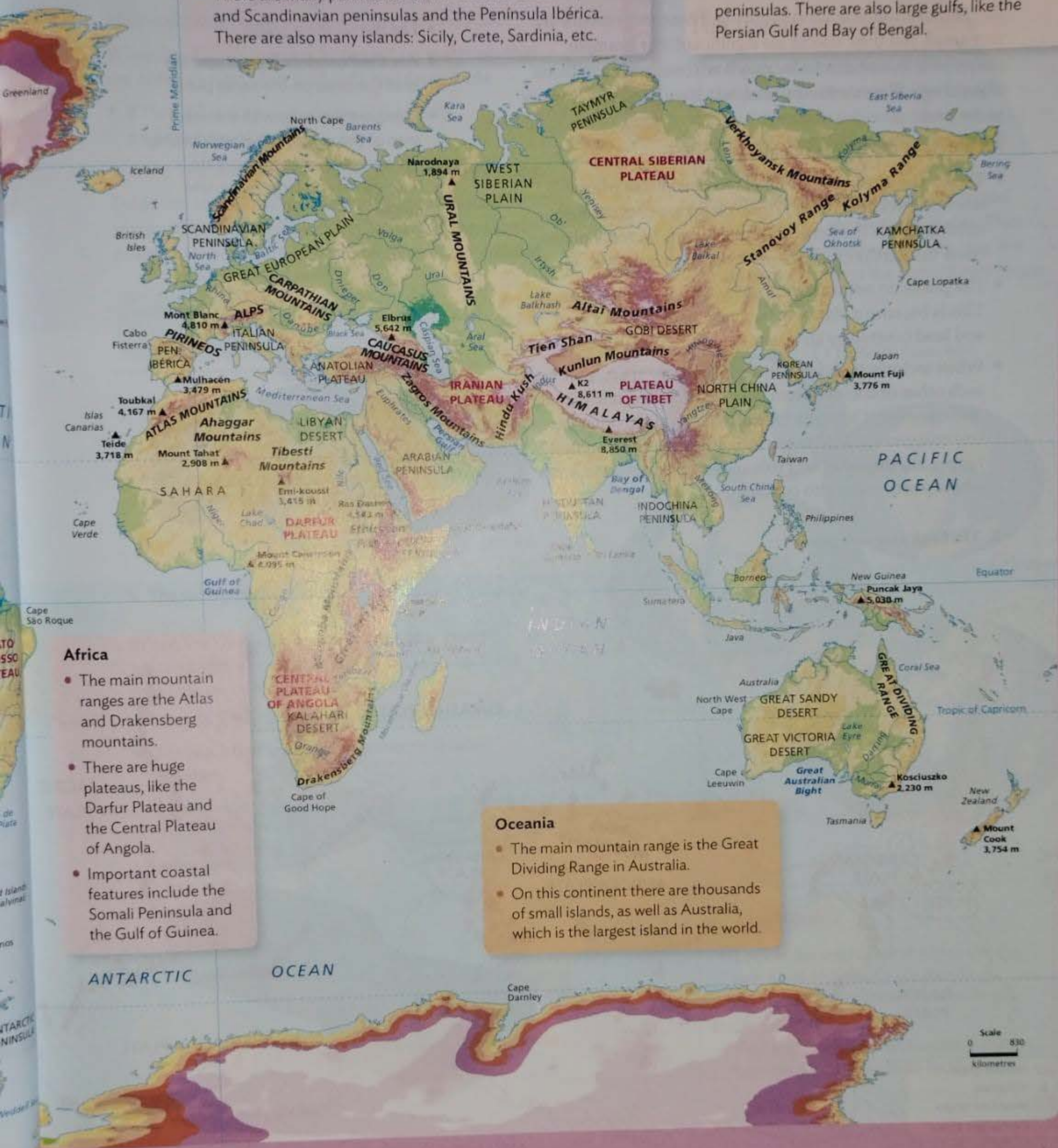


Europe

- The main mountain ranges are in the south: the Pirineos, the Alps, the Carpathian Mountains and the Caucasus.
- The Great European Plain extends from the Atlantic Ocean to the Urals.
- There are many peninsulas on the coast: the Balkan, Italian and Scandinavian peninsulas and the Peninsula Ibérica. There are also many islands: Sicily, Crete, Sardinia, etc.

Asia

- The Himalayas is the highest mountain range in the world, and Everest is the highest mountain peak.
- Tibet is the highest plateau in the world.
- There are large peninsulas on the coast, like the Anatolian, Arabian, Indian and Indochina peninsulas. There are also large gulfs, like the Persian Gulf and Bay of Bengal.



Africa

- The main mountain ranges are the Atlas and Drakensberg mountains.
- There are huge plateaus, like the Darfur Plateau and the Central Plateau of Angola.
- Important coastal features include the Somali Peninsula and the Gulf of Guinea.

Oceania

- The main mountain range is the Great Dividing Range in Australia.
- On this continent there are thousands of small islands, as well as Australia, which is the largest island in the world.