How Do I Get There from Here?  Guided Practice

My house is located on the northwest corner of Patriot Street and Rosina Avenue. Patriot Street goes north until it runs into Weimer’s Woods. Patriot Street extends out of town to the south.

At the eastern end of Rosina Avenue, on the north side, you will find Big Ben’s Burgers. Directly west of the Big Ben’s is Gehring’s Apartments.

East of Patriot, on the south side of the street, you will find Lake LaFake. Laurel Hill Creek flows out of Lake LaFake westward until it crosses under Patriot Street where it continues to flow until it reaches Bulger Stream, which is flowing from Weimer’s Woods. In turn, these two waterbodies flow out of town to the south.

Just west of Bulger Creek is the town dump, surrounded by big fields of beautiful flowers. Rosina Avenue stops at the dump.
My name is Nussbaum, and I own an island in the Pacific Ocean. My island is shaped like a human face viewed from the side. Right in the middle of my island are the houses. There are four houses. To the east of the houses is the well where we can get fresh water.

There is a path across the middle of the island going from east to west. We call this Nussbaum’s Trail. Going down the middle of the island from north to south is a different trail. It is called Snake Trail because we found snakes near it. The trails go right where the houses are located.

In the southeast corner along the edge of the island is the lagoon. This is where I had many dangerous and fun adventures! On the northeast corner are the Panther Mountains. Located in the mountains was a cave where gorillas lived. Coming from the mountains and flowing west is the Opie Creek. We can also get fresh water from the creek.

All along the northern coast of the island is Black Sand Beach. This beach has great sand and swimming areas. This area is bordered by dense jungle. On the southwestern corner of the island is a peninsula that we named Malcolm’s Peninsula.

On the northwestern part of the island is a volcano. Now you know about Nussbaum’s Island. Doesn’t it sound like a great place for an adventure!
Nussbaum’s Island

What began as a scenic three-hour plane tour over the Pacific Ocean, ended up as an adventure that lasted years. My name is Nussbaum and let me tell you about my island. The island is located somewhere in the Pacific Ocean, north of the Equator. Right in the middle of my island was our living quarters. This consisted of four huts arranged in a circle. Clockwise, beginning at 12:00, was my hut, which I shared with Pilot Bob. Next were JoJo and Mary Lou’s hut, then Uncle Ron’s hut and finally the Kerch’s hut.

The main path across the center of the island ran in an east-west direction and traversed the entire width of the island. We called this Nussbaum’s Trail. Intersecting Nussbaum’s Trail, just east of the huts, was Snake Pit Trail. This trail began at the southern edge of the island and ran north until it came to the Supply Hut, which was located northeast of the main compound. It was called Snake Pit Trail because just south of the main compound, along the western side of the trail, was a pit where we found snakes.

Beginning at the southwest corner along the edge of the island was the Lagoon. This is where I had many dangerous and fun adventures! Along this coast were cliffs that ran almost all the way to the northwest corner of the island. Between the Lagoon and the cliffs were the Panther Mountains with a secret tunnel. The tunnel's entrance was on the northwestern side of the Lagoon. Located in the northwestern part of the mountains was a cave where gorillas lived. That tunnel got me out of a great many fixes!

Beginning at the western coast, pouring out of the Panther Mountains, was Opie Creek, which runs east to just past the compound and then turns south until it flows into the ocean. Between the compound and the western coast were located, from north to south, the old WWII pit trap complete with tarps and camouflage, Pilot Bob’s Well, where we got our fresh water, and finally Nussbaum’s Watchtower. We had a path that we called Scorpion Trail, which ran southeast and connected Pilot Bob’s Well with the main compound.

I was always amazed at how the East Coast looked just like a human face. What a nose! However, the northern coast was quite different. All along the northern coast of the island was Blacksand Beach. In the direction of two o’clock, approximately 1 mile off the coast, were the remains of the Griswold, our airplane. Inland, just west and about one mile from the Griswold was the Community Idol. It was quite creative, but even now I am not sure what it was.
This area was surrounded by dense jungle. On the southeastern corner of the island was a peninsula, which we named Malcolm’s Peninsula. On the end of the peninsula was located the ruins of a tribe of cannibals, known as the Davis Clan, who used to live here. There have been reports of spirits in this end of the island!

Located northwest of the peninsula is the stage where we performed many shows. It came complete with benches, bamboo torches, and a music player made from coconuts.

As we were always looking for a way to get off the island, we had a raft-building area along the southern coast just east of Opie Creek. We had to haul all the materials from the main compound along the Denver Trail, which connected the Snakepit Trail with the Nussbaum Trail. On the east side of the trail was jungle and on the west side of the trail was a series of hills called the Jaggerz Mountains.

Oh, did I forget to tell you about the time I fell into the quicksand? If Pilot Bob hadn’t come upon me, I’d have been a goner for sure. The quicksand is found a little northwest of the supply hut. We also used to go fishing in the Old Fishin Hole, a freshwater lake found on the island near a dormant volcano along the western side of the island. Finally, back by the Lagoon was a sunbathing area where we also had our exercise equipment. We used a stationary bike to generate electricity for the main compound with power lines running to Pilot Bob’s hut.

Well, Little Buddy, now you know about Nussbaum’s Island. Doesn’t it sound like a great place for an adventure!
Version A Map Checklist
Name(s)________________________________________________________

Did you have?
1. Four houses ____
2. The well ____
3. Nussbaum Trail ____
4. Snake Trail
5. Lagoon ____
6. Panther Mountains ____
7. Cave with a gorilla ____
8. Opie Creek _____
9. Black Sand Beach ______
10. Jungle ______
11. Malcolm Peninsula _____
12. Volcano ______

Did you?
13. Do the map in color? _____
14. Include 5 human or physical features on the map? _____
15. Did you include?
   • The title for your map _____
   • A compass rose _____
   • Your name on the map _____
   • The date for your map _____
   • Symbols on your map ______
   • A legend for explaining the symbols _____
Version B Map Checklist

Name___________________________

Did you plot from **west to east**?

16. Nussbaum Trail _____
17. Lagoon _____
18. Gorilla Cave _____
19. Tunnel from Gorilla Cave _____
20. Opie Creek _____
21. Dormant Volcano _____
22. Fishin' Hole _____
23. WW II Pit Trap _____
24. Pilot Bob’s Well _____
25. Nussbaum’s Watchtower _____
26. Sunbathing Area w/ Bicycle and Wires to Pilot Bob’s Hut _____
27. Main Compound w/ Huts _____
28. Jaggerz Mountain _____
29. Scorpion Trail _____
30. Raft Building Area _____
31. Denver’s Trail _____
32. Quicksand _____
33. Supply Hut _____
34. Snake Pit Trail _____
35. Stage and Stuff _____
36. Malcolm’s Peninsula w/ Davis Clan Ruins _____
37. Community Idol _____
38. Blacksand Beach _____
39. Griswold Plane Wreck _____

Did you?

40. Make the east coast look like a face? _____
41. Do the map in color? _____
42. Do a neat job? _____
43. Do a creative job? _____
Nussbaum's Island

Legend

- house
- Nussbaum's Trail
- lagoon
- Black Sand Beach
- Jungle
- well
- Snake Trail
- volcano
- swimming area
- Malcolm's Peninsula
- Panther Mountains
- cave
- gorilla
- Opie Creek

Version A Answer Key
Version A Writing Prompt

Write a story about a place—real or pretend. Be sure to include compass directions and details that another student will be able to use in order to draw a map. Your story should include at least 5 human or physical features that can be drawn.
Version B Writing Prompt

Write a descriptive story about a place from which another student can draw a map. Be sure to include directions and details that another student will be able to interpret use in order to draw a map. Your story should include at least 10 human or physical features that can be drawn.