

## **Abstract**

The main goal of the thesis is to answer whether an ability to use maps in different ways is affected by one or more criteria specified by the author.

The author has decided to test abilities of fifteen-year-old pupils to work in different ways with actual and old maps. The thesis examines possible impact of type of the school, gender, school marks achieved in History and Geography lessons, and previous experience with using maps.

Before the practical part of the thesis was executed the theoretical part of the thesis had been dealt with. Different map skills were specified and characterized. Maps which the author had chosen to use for the purpose of the thesis were thoroughly described and particular odds of work with old maps were emphasised.

For the purpose of the research part of the thesis the author developed a didactic test. At pilot testing a sample of 34 pupils completed the test to verify it is suitable for the thesis purpose and it meets all requirements for scientific research.

At the second stage of the practical part of the research a group of 125 pupils from two different types of school completed the test.

After the practical part of the thesis the author rigorously analysed completed tests and discussed whether the abilities to use maps seem to be affected by some criteria that had been specified for the purpose of the thesis.

### **Key words:**

geographical education, skills, map skills, old map, classification, research