

## Where in the World

**Approach:** One to one

**Level:** Year 4 and year 8

**Resources:** List of place names; pencil; marker pen.

### Questions/instructions

I would like you to draw me a quick sketch map of New Zealand. Don't worry too much about your drawing, I would just like a quick outline of the map which shows the shape of New Zealand's 3 main islands.

Give student a pencil. Allow student time to draw map.

1. On your map, put a cross to show the town or city where you live or the one which is closest to where you live. Write down the name of the town or city beside the cross.

Check and if necessary help the student with the spelling of the place name.

Turn the page to show the map of the world.

2. Here is a map of the world. Draw a ring around New Zealand.

Show the student the list of places, and give them the marker pen.

3. Now I want you to write the numbers on the map to show where the places that are written on this list. I'll read you the numbers and place names, and you write the numbers where you think they should go on the map.

### Map of NZ drawn:

	% responses	
	y4	y8
3 main islands	50	87
2 main islands	25	10
other	25	3

### Proportions:

about right	38	66
North Island too large	19	19
South Island too large	14	10
not applicable	29	5

### Shape and relative positions of islands:

approximately correct	13	38
good attempt but problems	40	48
little resemblance	31	12
not applicable	16	2

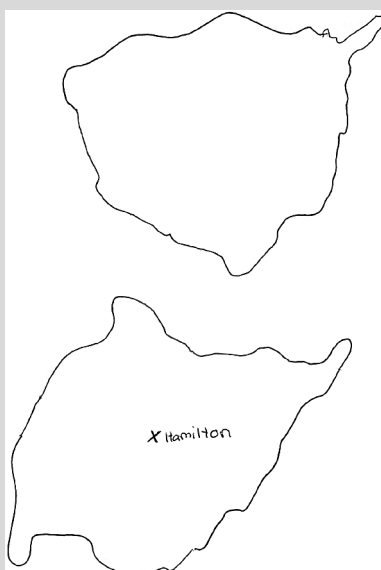
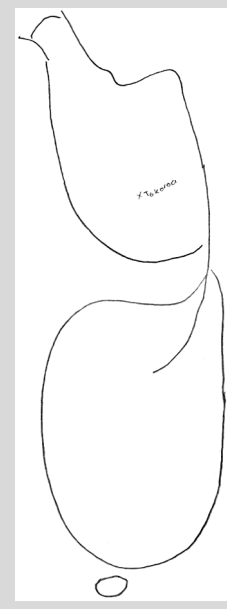
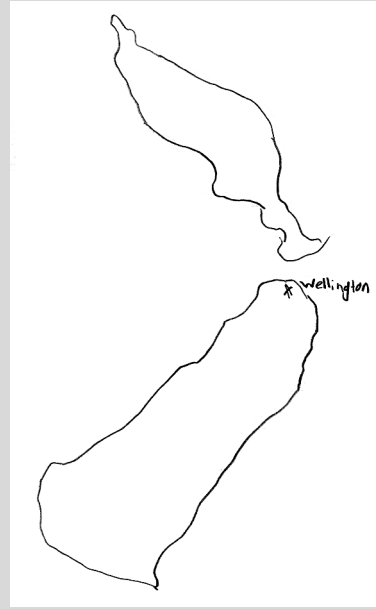
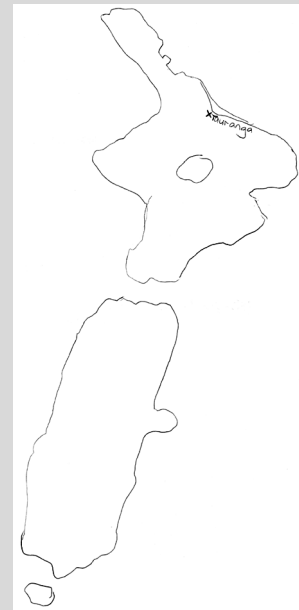
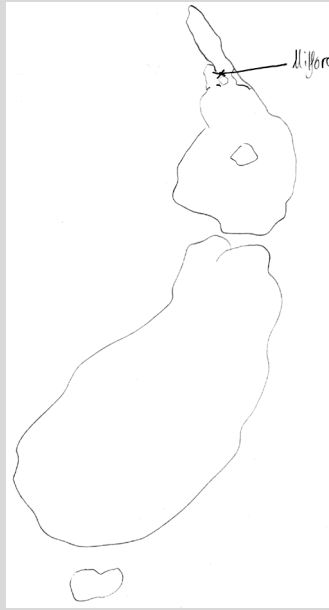
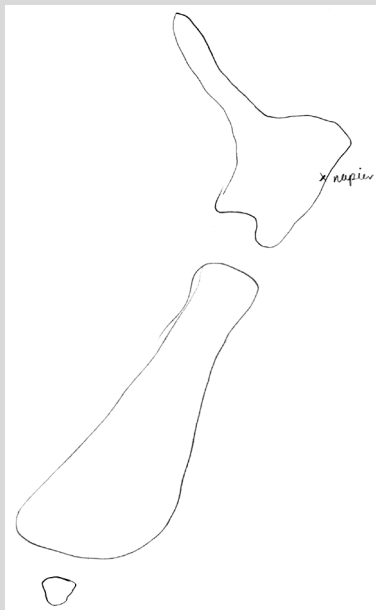
### Placement of home town or city on map:

general area in correct island	51	85
correct island, but wildly misplaced	10	9
inappropriate	21	4
not applicable	18	2

Circled New Zealand	88	97
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### Continents and countries accurately placed:

1. Australia	75	98
2. North America	34	71
3. South America	29	63
4. India [not year 4]	25	
5. China [not year 4]	36	
6. Africa	32	62
7. British Isles [not year 4]	30	
8. Europe	28	70
9. Pacific Ocean	61	84
10. Atlantic Ocean [not year 4]	29	



### Commentary

The first part of this task looked at students' abilities to represent the general configuration of the map of New Zealand by drawing a sketch map unaided, followed by marking their own home town or city on their map. The large majority of year 8 students scored well whereas about half of year 4 students showed comparable skill. The second part of the task investigated student knowledge of locations of selected continents, oceans and countries on a world map. Large numbers of students at both levels had difficulty identifying many of the places listed.