Field sketches & how to draw them

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Aims

• To show students how to make relevant field sketches
• To encourage use of appropriate technical terms to describe what is seen & sketched in the field
• To help students recognise relationships between geology & topography
• To help students revise basic field phenomena
Why are field sketches important?

- Record field observations & measurements
- Give a summary of key structural & geological features
- Help analyses of photographs taken in the field
- Provide useful memory aids
- Here today – gone tomorrow?
Making a field sketch

You don’t have to:
• Be an artist
• Produce a masterpiece or work of art

You do have to:
• Produce a simple outline drawing or summary diagram
• Allow enough time to make a sketch
• Keep work neat & tidy
The wrong way?
The right way?
Stages in drawing a field sketch
1. Choose the view you wish to record
2. Choose a scale & draw lines to divide your page
3. Draw in the skyline & foreground in your field of view
4. Draw in lines showing the main structural & geological features
5. Draw in features such as changes in slope, vegetation & rock type.

**Hint:** Leave out details of minor features – best recorded in smaller sketches highlighting details.
6. Add labels

- tor
- rectangular blocks
- granite
- widened joints
- beach sand
7. Check list

(a) Date
(b) Locality & National Grid Reference
(c) Title
(d) Direction of view
(e) Measurements/scale
(f) Rock types
(g) Dip & strike
(h) Types of structures (sedimentary, tectonic)

**Hint:** Avoid vague terms