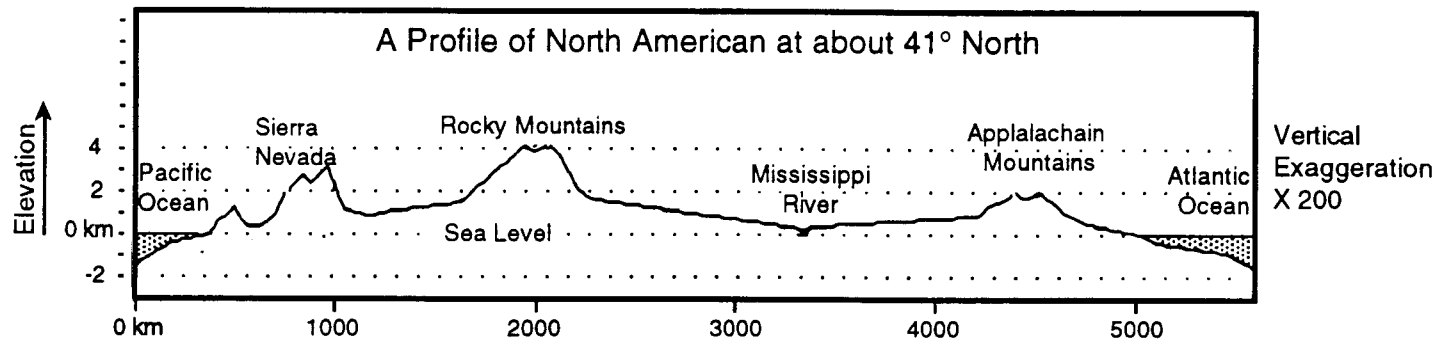


A profile is a cut away view, a cross section, or a silhouette.

Topographic profiles show the shape of the land with the highest places representing hills, and the valleys in the lowest places. In some profiles, the vertical scale has been enlarged to show changes in elevation more clearly. Without vertical exaggeration, the profile would look flat. The cross section below has a vertical exaggeration of about 200 times the horizontal distance.



Use the data below to construct a profile of the Atlantic Ocean. You will need a sheet of graph paper. Start by labeling a horizontal line near the top, "sea level". Measure all depths down below this reference line at sea level. The greatest numbers show the greatest depths.

Distance (km)		Depth (km)
0	Cape Cod, MA	0
200		0.2
400		0.6
600		2.1
900		3.0
1200	The	3.5
1500	Great	3.4
2000	Abyssal	3.6
3000	Plain	3.1

(Data continues above ↗.)

Distance (km)		Depth (km)
4000		3.0
4100		2.5
4200	The	0.3
4300	Mid-Atlantic	1.1
4400	Ridge	0.5
4500		2.7
4800		3.1
5300		2.8
5800		0.1
6100	Land's End, Great Britain	0

Be sure that you have made your graph before you try to answer the following.

- Label the two ends of your ocean profile, "North America" and "Europe". Also label the "Great Abyssal Plain" and the "Mid-Atlantic Ridge" at their respective positions on the profile.
- What terms mean the same as "profile"? _____
- Your profile shows the total thickness of the... a. atmosphere b. hydrosphere c. lithosphere
- The ocean bottom is... a. all flat b. totally mountainous c. a region of both kinds of features?
- A submerged mountain range runs down the center of the Atlantic Ocean. What is the name applied to this geographic feature? _____
- Why is the vertical scale often made larger than the horizontal scale in profiles of the Earth?