**Interpreting a Relief Map**

Two activities that are popular in New Zealand are mountain climbing and skiing. The relief map below shows mountainous areas, which are suitable to those activities. The mountains also provide some regions of New Zealand with spectacular scenery—especially in the Southern Alps of South Island.

**THE LANGUAGE OF MAPS** A relief map illustrates the differences in elevation that are found in a region. It does this with a combination of colors and shading. The lowest elevations are shown in green, and various shades of brown represent progressively higher elevations. The gray shading shows the locations of mountainous landforms.

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**New Zealand: Physical**

![Relief Map of New Zealand](image)

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1. **Seeing Patterns**
   Which of New Zealand’s two large islands is more mountainous?

2. **Drawing Conclusions**
   How high is Mount Cook?

3. **Making Inferences**
   Which island is better suited to farming? Why?