Exploring Earth’s Surface

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| What is topography?  What is the difference between elevation and relief?  How do landforms relate to topography?  What are the main types of landforms?  Where can plains be found?  How are mountains related?  What is a plateau?  What terms can be used to describe landform regions? | Topography is the shape of the land including elevation, relief, and landforms.  Elevation is an area’s highest point above sea level, and relief is the range height.  Different landforms have different combinations of elevation and relief.  The main types of landforms are plains, mountains, and plateaus.  Coastal plains are found along the sea coast, and interior plains are found in between mountain ranges.  Mountains that are the same structure and age make up a mountain range, mountain ranges make up mountain systems, and mountains systems make up a mountain belt.  A plateau is an area with high elevation and a level surface (table top/mesa)  Landform regions include uplands, lowlands, basins, deserts, mountains, and highlands (etc.) |

Summary: