Making and Mapping a Simple Table

A. Making the Table

1. Engage a simple text editor such as Notepad (Windows) or SimpleText (Macintosh). You could use any word processor but this demonstrates that it can be done even with very basic tools.

2. In a blank page, type what will be the top line of the table:
   ```
   site,xlong,ylat,item,color,reading,student
   ```
   The elements that will become the names of columns (or "**fields**") are noted using commas as a visible break, and no spaces between the comma and the start of the new field name.

3. Enter the rows of information (or "**records**") below, ending each line with the ENTER key.
   ```
   1,0,0,tree,R,18,A
   2,1,1,shrub,Y,16,B
   3,2,0,tree,Y,22,B
   4,1,-1,shrub,R,17,C
   5,-1,-1,shrub,G,16,C
   6,-2,0,tree,G,20,A
   7,-1,1,shrub,R,12,A
   8,0,2,grass,Y,6,D
   9,0,-2,grass,G,4,D
   10,2,-2,pole,B,8,E
   11,2,2,pole,B,14,E
   12,-2,2,pole,B,18,E
   13,-2,-2,pole,B,17,E
   ```

4. When all done, make sure there are no blank rows. Press the down arrow and right arrow keys as needed to go to the very end of the document. If needed, delete spaces and empty lines until the very end of the document is at the right end of the last line.

5. Look over the document, checking for proper number of commas, looking for unneeded spaces, and formatting errors.

6. Save the file as a simple ASCII text file, called "`dotfile.txt`" in a place you will be able to find it later.

7. Exit your word processor and continue with either Part B or Part C.

B. Bringing the Table into ArcVoyager

1. In ArcVoyager, navigate to "Creating New Worlds: Turn Me Loose", and engage the Startup project, which will open with a blank view.

2. Click the "AddTable" button and navigate to the site where you stored "dotfile.txt".

3. Set "List Files of Type" to "Delimited Text (*.txt)".

4. Double-click "dotfile.txt", which will open as a regular table with 7 columns, inside ArcVoyager. (If there is only one column, or if ArcVoyager reports an error, that means the table is not properly constructed or saved. Close ArcVoyager, return to Part A and recheck your work.)

C. Bringing the Table into ArcView

1. In ArcView, create a blank project with a blank view.

2. Navigate to the Project window, making it frontmost.

3. In the Project window, click the "Tables" button, then click "Add"

4. Navigate to the site where you stored "dotfile.txt".

5. Set "List Files of Type" to "Delimited Text (*.txt)".

6. Double-click "dotfile.txt", which will open as a regular table with 7 columns, inside ArcView. (If there is only one column, or if ArcView reports an error, that means the table is not properly constructed or saved. Close ArcView, return to Part A and recheck your work.)

D. Displaying the Table

1. Now that the table is within the "current project" (i.e. exists as a document within ArcVoyager or ArcView), it can be mapped. Navigate to "View1".

2. Inside "View1", choose the menu item "View/AddEventTheme"

3. For the "X" field, choose "xlong"; for the "Y" field, choose "ylat". (Had the X and Y fields been named "X" and "Y" or "long" and "lat" or "longitude" and "latitude", ArcVoyager and ArcView would have defaulted to these.) Click "OK"

4. Turn the theme on.

5. Move your mouse around the points and note the coordinates visible. Compare the coordinates with the date you entered into the table.

6. Double-click on the theme name "dotfile.txt" to bring up the legend editor. Set the Legend Type to "Unique Value". In Values Field, choose "Item". Modify the symbols as desired and choose "Apply".

7. Double-click on the theme name "dotfile.txt" to bring up the legend editor. Set the Legend Type to "Unique Value". In Values Field, choose "Color". Modify the symbols as desired and choose "Apply".

8. Double-click on the theme name "dotfile.txt" to bring up the legend editor. Set the Legend Type to "Unique Value". In Values Field, choose "Student". Modify the symbols as desired and choose "Apply".

9. Double-click on the theme name "dotfile.txt" to bring up the legend editor. Change the Legend Type to "Graduated Color". In Values Field, choose "Reading". Modify the symbols as desired and choose "Apply".