

Printing

Four Corners

Directions: Copy the following passages using perfect printing.

- **Shape** – letters formed according to D’Nealian standard.
- **Size** – correct height and width, staying on the line.
- **Spacing** – letters and words demonstrate clarity and flow.
- **Slant** – words slanted slightly and consistently.

*Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh
Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp
Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx
Yy Zz 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9*

There is only one place in America where four states meet at one point: Four Corners Monument. Technically, you could be in four states at one time: a foot in New Mexico, the other in Arizona, a hand in Utah, and one more in Colorado. It is a unique tourist stop with no real significance. Visitors just stop, take pictures, jump back in the car, and continue on their way.

State boundaries are created usually by two methods. It is a boundary, either like a river or mountain range which naturally separates land, or it is mathematical like a straight line. When mapmakers made states mathematically, especially in the larger western territories, straight lines were often based on latitudes or longitudes. Then surveyors located and physically marked the boundaries, usually with small rock monuments or metal discs.



The Four Corners controversy – in 2009, the question came up whether the monument was in the right place. The official answer from the U.S. Geodetic Survey was “no”. The original surveyors were 1,807 feet east of the theoretical location. This shows it is easy to make boundaries on a map but not so easy trying to mark the same boundaries on land.



Now what? You have a popular tourist attraction marking four state corners, and it is not in the correct location!

The Supreme Court decided the answer. The monument stays, and it is still officially the four corners, even if early surveyors made an error. The court realized the difficulty of early surveying, and as long as the four states agreed that a survey was needed, then the survey results are official, even if mistakes are found later.