

Southwest Connections

Compare cultural traits in the Southwest and Mexico.

SS.3.G.4.3 "Compare the cultural characteristics of diverse populations in one of the five regions of the United States with Canada, Mexico, or the Caribbean."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number one shared pair and one different pair of cultural traits in the passage. Use the same number for both parts of each pair.

Culture Across Borders

- ① The Southwest region includes Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. Many cultural groups live there, including Native American nations and Mexican American families. In New Mexico, some Pueblo communities make pottery and hold dances that share traditions. Spanish is spoken in many homes and neighborhoods. English is also widely spoken. These cultural traits help make the Southwest diverse.
- ② Mexico is a country south of the Southwest. Spanish is the main language in Mexico, and many people in the Southwest speak Spanish too. Corn tortillas are eaten in Mexico and in many Southwest homes and restaurants. Mexico has many regional cultures. For example, people may have different foods, music, and celebrations depending on where they live.
- ③ Some traditions are different. Pueblo pottery in New Mexico often uses local clay and designs passed down in Pueblo communities. In Mexico, artisans make many kinds of crafts, such as woven items and painted pottery. Both places have artists, but the materials and styles can vary. Learning about shared traits and differences helps us respect people without thinking that everyone in one place is the same.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What language trait is shared by Mexico and many people in the Southwest?

2 What food is named as a shared cultural trait in Mexico and the Southwest?

3 How is Pueblo pottery in New Mexico different from some crafts made in Mexico?

4 How does the passage show that both the Southwest and Mexico are diverse?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a three-sentence museum label that compares a Pueblo pottery piece from New Mexico with a craft from Mexico. Include one similarity, one difference, and a sentence explaining why people should not assume everyone in either place has the same traditions.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Number one shared pair and one different pair of cultural traits in the passage. Use the same number for both parts of each pair. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What language trait is shared by Mexico and many people in the Southwest?	Spanish is spoken in Mexico and by many people in the Southwest.
2	What food is named as a shared cultural trait in Mexico and the Southwest?	Corn tortillas.
3	How is Pueblo pottery in New Mexico different from some crafts made in Mexico?	Pueblo pottery often uses local clay and designs passed down in Pueblo communities. Crafts in Mexico can include woven items and painted pottery.
4	How does the passage show that both the Southwest and Mexico are diverse?	The Southwest has many cultural groups, including Native American nations and Mexican American families. Mexico has many regional cultures with different foods, music, and celebrations.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A Pueblo pot from New Mexico and a craft from Mexico both show the work of artists. Pueblo pottery often uses local clay and designs passed down in Pueblo communities, while crafts in Mexico can include woven items and painted pottery. People in both places have many traditions, so not everyone makes the same kind of art.

Accept equivalent wording that accurately compares the traits in the passage. For the museum label, accept another accurate similarity and difference from the passage if all three required ideas are included.