Lives Across Landscapes

Compare communities by tracing shared practices and local differences.

6-12.US1.1 "Compare and contrast the culture of various American Indian communities that were established in North America prior to European settlement, including but not limited to: • Arctic (Inuit, Aleut) • Subarctic (Cree..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that show a similarity between communities. Circle two details that show a difference, then write the communities' names beside the details you marked.

Many Places, Many Ways of Life

1 Long before Europeans settled North America, communities used local resources in different ways. In the Arctic, Inuit families hunted seals on sea ice and fished in coastal waters. They used animal skins for clothing that helped protect them from cold and wind. Along the Pacific coast, Chinook communities caught salmon in rivers and lived in cedar plank houses. Both peoples relied on nearby waters, but their homes and clothing reflected different environments. Chinook traders also exchanged goods along river routes. Neither group followed a single way of life everywhere: seasons and local conditions shaped what families did.

2 Farther inland, growing food linked some communities that had different political traditions. In the Northeast, Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) people cultivated corn, beans, and squash. Related families shared longhouses, and women from clans helped choose leaders. In the Southeast, Cherokee communities also raised corn, beans, and squash, but many lived in separate houses clustered in towns. Cherokee towns had councils where people discussed community decisions. Farming did not erase other work: both peoples also hunted, fished, and gathered wild foods. Similar crops, then, did not mean that homes or ways of making decisions were identical.

3 On the Great Plains, some Dakota communities hunted bison and used its hides for portable tipis. People traveled on foot and used dogs to help move belongings. In the Great Basin, Shoshone families gathered seeds and roots and hunted small game, often moving among seasonal camps. In the Southwest, Pueblo communities farmed corn in dry country, using methods suited to scarce rainfall, and built homes from adobe or stone. Like the Dakota and Shoshone, Pueblo peoples adapted to local conditions, yet their farming villages differed from mobile camps. No region's communities all lived alike.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Inuit and Chinook communities both use nearby waters, and what different resources did they get from them?

2. What crops did Haudenosaunee and Cherokee communities both grow, and how did their homes differ?

3. What evidence shows that Dakota and Shoshone communities moved from place to place? How did their food sources differ?

4. How did Pueblo farming villages differ from Dakota camps in food and housing?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four sentences comparing Inuit, Chinook, and Pueblo communities. Include one similarity and two differences in food or homes, and explain how local conditions shaped at least one difference.

ANSWER KEY

Lives Across Landscapes

GRADES 6-12 · 6-12.US1.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that show a similarity between communities. Circle two details that show a difference, then write the communities' names beside the details you marked. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Inuit and Chinook communities both use nearby waters, and what different resources did they get from them?	**Both got food from nearby waters. Inuit families caught fish and hunted seals on sea ice, while Chinook communities caught salmon in rivers.**
2	What crops did Haudenosaunee and Cherokee communities both grow, and how did their homes differ?	**Both grew corn, beans, and squash. Related Haudenosaunee families shared longhouses, while many Cherokee families lived in separate houses clustered in towns.**
3	What evidence shows that Dakota and Shoshone communities moved from place to place? How did their food sources differ?	**Dakota communities used portable tipis, while Shoshone families often moved among seasonal camps. The Dakota hunted bison; Shoshone families gathered seeds and roots and hunted small game.**
4	How did Pueblo farming villages differ from Dakota camps in food and housing?	**Pueblo communities farmed corn and built homes from adobe or stone. Some Dakota communities hunted bison and used portable tipis made from its hides.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Inuit, Chinook, and Pueblo communities all used local resources to get food. Inuit and Chinook people both fished, but Inuit families also hunted seals on sea ice while Chinook communities caught salmon in rivers. Pueblo communities grew corn in dry country, unlike the other two groups, which got some food from nearby waters. Chinook cedar plank houses and Pueblo adobe or stone homes show how available building materials differed from place to place.

Accept comparisons supported by the passage. Students should describe practices of the named communities without claiming that every community in a region lived the same way.