

Resources Around Us

Compare how communities use natural and human resources.

3.9a "World communities use human and natural resources in different ways."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each natural resource and circle each human resource. Put a star beside each sentence that tells how a resource helps meet a need or want.

Three Communities, Many Resources

- ① High in the Andes Mountains of Peru, many families grow potatoes on steep fields. Soil, water, sunshine, and alpaca wool are natural resources. Farmers use their knowledge of planting on mountain slopes, and weavers use their skills to turn wool into warm clothing. People's work, knowledge, and skills are human resources. Potatoes and clothing help families meet needs, and extra wool goods can be sold for wants.
- ② In a coastal community in Japan, the sea provides fish and seaweed. Fishers use their skills to read weather and catch food safely. They may use boats and nets made by people. After a storm, fewer fishers can work, so fresh fish may be scarce. Scarcity means there is not enough of a resource for everyone who wants it. Families may choose other foods until more fish arrive.
- ③ In a river delta community in Bangladesh, farmers use fertile soil and river water to grow rice. Their planning and farming skills help them decide when to plant. Heavy rain can also flood fields and damage a crop. When a harvest is larger than the community needs, it has a surplus. A surplus is extra of a resource. Families can store rice, trade it, or sell it to buy items they want.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Name two natural resources used in Peru. Tell how people use one of them.

2 What human resource do the fishers in Japan use? How does it help them?

3 Why might fresh fish be scarce after a storm in the Japanese community?

4 How could the community in Bangladesh have extra rice while the community in Japan has too little fresh fish?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a real or imagined community. Write three sentences: name one natural resource and one human resource, explain how people use both to meet a need or want, and tell whether the community might have scarcity or surplus of the natural resource and why.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each natural resource and circle each human resource. Put a star beside each sentence that tells how a resource helps meet a need or want. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Name two natural resources used in Peru. Tell how people use one of them.	Possible answers: soil, water, sunshine, or alpaca wool. Farmers use soil, water, and sunshine to grow potatoes, or weavers turn alpaca wool into warm clothing.
2	What human resource do the fishers in Japan use? How does it help them?	They use their skills to read the weather and catch food safely.
3	Why might fresh fish be scarce after a storm in the Japanese community?	Fewer fishers can work after a storm, so there may not be enough fresh fish for everyone who wants it.
4	How could the community in Bangladesh have extra rice while the community in Japan has too little fresh fish?	The farming community can harvest more rice than it needs. The coastal community can have too little fresh fish when a storm keeps fishers from working.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In a coastal community in Ghana, fish are a natural resource, and fishers' knowledge of tides is a human resource. Fishers use that knowledge to catch fish for food and to sell at a market. After a long storm, fish could be scarce because fishers cannot go out on the water.

Accept equivalent natural resources and accurate descriptions of people's work, knowledge, or skills as human resources. For the open response, accept any plausible community use and a logical explanation of scarcity or surplus.