

Land Shapes Life

Trace how geography influenced Native American cultures.

7.1a "Geography and climate influenced the migration and cultural development of Native Americans. Native Americans in North America settled into different regions and developed distinct cultures."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each word or phrase that names a geographic feature, climate condition, or resource. Circle the nearby detail that shows how people adapted to it, then number each matching cause-and-effect pair.

Different Lands, Different Ways of Life

- ① Long before European contact, Native American communities settled in many parts of North America. They chose places where water, food, shelter materials, and travel routes were available. Climate shaped daily choices too. In cold northern areas, long winters required warm clothing and well-insulated homes. In dry places, people needed to manage limited water. As groups moved over generations, they adapted to the land where they lived. These adaptations helped create distinct cultures, even though many communities also traded ideas and goods with neighbors.
- ② In the Southwest, deserts and mesas brought little rainfall. Pueblo peoples, including the Hopi and Zuni, developed several farming methods for corn, beans, and squash. Some directed runoff or irrigation water to fields. Hopi dry farming also conserved rain and moisture already in the soil. Methods varied with local conditions. People built permanent villages from stone and adobe, a sun-dried earth mixture. Springs and other water sources supported community life.
- ③ In the Eastern Woodlands, forests, rivers, and lakes supplied wood, fish, game, and fertile soil. Haudenosaunee communities in what is now New York State grew the Three Sisters, corn, beans, and squash. Forest trees provided logs and bark for longhouses, which sheltered several related families. Rivers and lakes offered travel routes for canoes and connections for trade. Because this region had more rainfall than the Southwest, farmers could often depend on rain instead of building irrigation channels.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- 1** According to paragraph 1, name two things communities looked for when selecting a place to settle. Why would these matter?

- 2** How did the dry Southwest climate influence Pueblo farming and settlement?

- 3** How did rainfall lead to a different farming practice in the Eastern Woodlands than in the Southwest?

- 4** Explain how one Eastern Woodlands resource influenced Haudenosaunee housing.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a four-sentence comparison of the Southwest and the Eastern Woodlands. Explain one geographic factor in each region, one cultural response to each factor, and how the environments led to different ways of life.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each word or phrase that names a geographic feature, climate condition, or resource. Circle the nearby detail that shows how people adapted to it, then number each matching cause-and-effect pair. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	According to paragraph 1, name two things communities looked for when selecting a place to settle. Why would these matter?	Water and food, or shelter materials and travel routes. These resources helped communities meet daily needs and maintain settlements.
2	How did the dry Southwest climate influence Pueblo farming and settlement?	Limited rainfall encouraged careful water use, including runoff collection, irrigation in some places, and dry farming. Water sources helped support villages.
3	How did rainfall lead to a different farming practice in the Eastern Woodlands than in the Southwest?	Eastern Woodlands farmers could often rely on greater rainfall. Southwestern farmers managed scarce water through methods such as irrigation, runoff collection, or conserving soil moisture.
4	Explain how one Eastern Woodlands resource influenced Haudenosaunee housing.	Forest trees provided logs and bark for longhouses, which sheltered several related families.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Southwest was dry, so Pueblo farmers used methods such as collecting runoff or conserving soil moisture. The Eastern Woodlands had more rainfall, so Haudenosaunee farmers could often depend on rain. Forests also supplied logs and bark for longhouses. Different environments influenced farming and building choices.

Accept equivalent cause-and-effect explanations that use details from the passage. For the open response, look for accurate comparisons linking geography or resources to cultural choices in both regions.