Places and Peoples

Compare how Native communities lived across North America.

6.C.3.5.B "Compare the cultures of Native peoples of the United States of America and Canada (e.g., Ancestral Puebloan, Mississippian, First Nations, Inuit, Metis)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one shared practice you find between two peoples, then circle two details that show how their ways of life differed. Number the circled details 1 and 2 so you can use them in your answers.

Homes, Food, and Trade

(1) Imagine walking through two places in North America long ago. In the Southwest, Ancestral Puebloan communities built stone and adobe homes, sometimes tucked beneath cliffs. They grew corn in a dry climate and stored food for lean seasons. Farther east, Mississippian peoples built towns near rivers. Many homes had wooden frames and clay walls. They also raised large earthen mounds that held important buildings or served as burial places. They traded goods along rivers. Both peoples farmed corn and built lasting communities, but their materials, landforms, and public spaces differed.

(2) In what is now Canada, First Nations include many distinct peoples, not one single culture. For example, Haudenosaunee communities grew corn, beans, and squash and built longhouses that sheltered several families. Inuit communities in the Arctic adapted to colder lands and seas. Traditionally, many Inuit hunted seals and traveled by kayak on open water; in some places, families built snow houses for temporary shelter. Both Haudenosaunee and Inuit families shared skills across generations, yet their homes and food sources differed. Today, members of both communities live in modern homes and keep traditions alive.

(3) Métis communities emerged during the fur trade, especially around the Red River. Many Métis families have First Nations and European ancestors, yet they formed a distinct people with their own traditions. Some hunted bison on the plains and farmed near rivers. They also moved goods by canoe and Red River cart. Like Mississippian peoples, Métis communities combined farming and trade. But Métis bison hunts on the plains differed from Inuit seal hunts in Arctic waters. These peoples and their cultures continue today, with traditions that change over time.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Ancestral Puebloan homes differ from Mississippian homes? Name one other kind of structure Mississippian peoples built.

2. Compare the traditional homes and food sources described for Haudenosaunee and Inuit communities.

3. What did Mississippian and Métis communities have in common? How did the ways they moved goods differ in the passage?

4. How were the hunts described for Métis and Inuit communities alike, and how did they differ?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four sentences comparing Ancestral Puebloan and Inuit communities. Give one similarity and two differences, using details about homes, food, or place from the passage.

ANSWER KEY

Places and Peoples

GRADE 6 · 6.C.3.5.B

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one shared practice you find between two peoples, then circle two details that show how their ways of life differed. Number the circled details 1 and 2 so you can use them in your answers. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Ancestral Puebloan homes differ from Mississippian homes? Name one other kind of structure Mississippian peoples built.	**Ancestral Puebloan homes were made of stone and adobe, sometimes beneath cliffs. Many Mississippian homes had wooden frames and clay walls; Mississippian peoples also built earthen mounds.**
2	Compare the traditional homes and food sources described for Haudenosaunee and Inuit communities.	**Haudenosaunee communities built longhouses and grew corn, beans, and squash. In some places, Inuit families built temporary snow houses, and many Inuit traditionally hunted seals.**
3	What did Mississippian and Métis communities have in common? How did the ways they moved goods differ in the passage?	**Both farmed and traded. Mississippian peoples traded goods along rivers, while Métis communities moved goods by canoe and Red River cart.**
4	How were the hunts described for Métis and Inuit communities alike, and how did they differ?	**Both hunted animals for food. Some Métis hunted bison on the plains, while many Inuit traditionally hunted seals in Arctic waters.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Ancestral Puebloan and Inuit communities both built shelters suited to their surroundings. Ancestral Puebloan people built stone and adobe homes, sometimes beneath cliffs, while some Inuit families used temporary snow houses. Ancestral Puebloan communities grew corn in the dry Southwest, but many Inuit traditionally hunted seals in the Arctic. Their food sources differed because the places where they lived had different land and water.

Accept comparisons supported by the passage. Students should distinguish historical or traditional practices from the lives of Native peoples today.