

Choices Across Texas

How early American Indian groups used work and trade to meet needs and wants.

4.9.A “explain the economic activities various early American Indian groups in Texas used to meet their needs and wants such as farming, trading, and hunting; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each action people used to get or exchange goods. Circle the words that explain whether the action met a need or a want.

Resources, Needs, and Trade

- ① Long ago, American Indian groups in Texas made careful choices to meet needs for food, shelter, clothing, and tools. Their choices depended on where they lived and what each season brought. A need was something important for living, such as food. A want was something people hoped to have, such as a special shell ornament or a better tool.
- ② Caddo communities in the piney woods of East Texas grew corn, beans, and squash. Farming gave them a steady food supply. They also hunted deer and gathered wild plants. Caddo traders exchanged goods, including pottery and crops, with other groups. Trading could bring items that were hard to find nearby and could help people get things they wanted.
- ③ Along the Gulf Coast, Karankawa groups fished in bays and gathered oysters and other shellfish. They also hunted animals and collected plants. These activities used nearby resources to meet food needs. In West Texas, Jumano people farmed near rivers when water was available and traded with traveling groups. Trade connected communities and brought materials or goods from places farther away.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did farming help the Caddo meet a need?

2 Why did Caddo traders exchange goods with other groups?

3 Name two activities the Karankawa used to meet food needs.

4 How did the places where the Jumano and Karankawa lived affect one activity each group chose?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine a group living near a river in Texas. Write 3 or 4 sentences describing two economic activities the group could use, and explain how one activity meets a need and one could help the group get a want.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each action people used to get or exchange goods. Circle the words that explain whether the action met a need or a want. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did farming help the Caddo meet a need?	Farming gave the Caddo a steady food supply.
2	Why did Caddo traders exchange goods with other groups?	Trading could bring items that were hard to find nearby and things people wanted.
3	Name two activities the Karankawa used to meet food needs.	They fished and gathered oysters or other shellfish. They also hunted animals and collected plants.
4	How did the places where the Jumano and Karankawa lived affect one activity each group chose?	The Jumano farmed near rivers when water was available. The Karankawa fished in Gulf Coast bays and gathered shellfish.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A group living near a river could farm corn and trade extra corn with another group. Farming would meet the need for food. Trading could bring bright beads, a want.

Accept accurate activities that fit a river setting, such as farming, fishing, hunting, gathering, or trading. The response must clearly connect an activity to a need and connect an activity to a want.