

Culture Connections

Identify shared traits and describe culture regions.

6.13.A “identify and describe common traits that define cultures and culture regions;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three cultural traits, circle the sentence that explains what makes a culture region, and number two details that show why the Andean region is one.

Shared Traits Across the Andes

- ① Culture includes learned ways that people communicate, celebrate, eat, work, make art, and organize daily life. People learn many of these traits from family members, neighbors, schools, and community groups. A culture is not a single rule that every person follows. Individuals may speak more than one language, choose different foods, or have different beliefs. Still, shared traits can help people recognize connections among groups. These traits may include language, religion, traditions, music, clothing, homes, and ways of earning a living.
- ② In the Andes Mountains of South America, communities in Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, and parts of Colombia share some cultural traits shaped by mountain life and history. Many people speak Spanish, and some speak Indigenous languages such as Quechua. Farmers often grow potatoes, quinoa, and maize on mountain slopes. Weaving traditions can use bright patterns and local materials. Festivals may combine Indigenous practices with Catholic celebrations. These similarities do not make all Andean people alike. Cities, rural villages, families, and individuals can have different customs and experiences.
- ③ A culture region is an area where many people share one or more cultural traits. Its boundaries are not always exact because cultures change and overlap. The Andean region can be identified by links among mountain farming, languages, weaving, and festivals across several countries. Physical geography can influence a culture region, but it does not determine culture by itself. Trade, migration, and history also spread ideas. To describe a culture region carefully, name shared traits and also note differences within the region.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Name three examples of cultural traits from the first paragraph.

2 What three shared traits help identify the Andean region?

3 Why do shared traits not mean that all Andean people are alike?

4 How can geography and one other factor help shape or spread a culture region? Use details from the passage.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose a real or imagined area. In four sentences, describe three shared cultural traits, explain how one geographic or historical factor connects people there, and state one way people in the region may differ.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline three cultural traits, circle the sentence that explains what makes a culture region, and number two details that show why the Andean region is one. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Name three examples of cultural traits from the first paragraph.	Any three: language, religion, traditions, music, clothing, homes, ways of earning a living, communication, celebrations, food, work, or art.
2	What three shared traits help identify the Andean region?	Any three: mountain farming, languages, weaving, festivals, growing potatoes, quinoa, and maize, or celebrations that combine Indigenous and Catholic practices.
3	Why do shared traits not mean that all Andean people are alike?	Cities, rural villages, families, and individuals can have different customs and experiences. People may also have different languages, foods, or beliefs.
4	How can geography and one other factor help shape or spread a culture region? Use details from the passage.	Mountain geography can influence farming and daily life. Trade, migration, or history can spread ideas and cultural traits.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Along the fictional Cedar River region, many families share a spring boat festival, songs about the river, and meals made with locally caught fish. The river supports fishing and travel, so it helps connect towns and shape these traditions. Some residents speak different home languages or follow different religions. These differences show that people can share a culture region without having identical lives.

Accept accurate traits and explanations stated in the passage. For the open response, accept varied real or imagined regions if the student includes three shared traits, a connecting factor, and a difference within the region.