

Land Shapes Lives

Read how nearby land and water affect daily choices.

3.3.c “describing how geographic features have impacted the lives of individuals; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each geographic feature in the passage. Circle the words that show how that feature helps a person or creates a challenge.

Life Around Town

- ① Jordan lives in a town beside the Missouri River. His family owns a small boat and catches fish early in the morning. The river gives them water and a way to travel to the market. During spring floods, Jordan helps move tools to higher ground. The same river that supports his family can also make work harder.
- ② On the town's steep hills, Mei walks up a long path to reach her home. The hill gives her family a wide view of the river valley. However, carrying groceries uphill takes extra time and energy. In winter, ice can make the path slippery, so Mei wears boots and walks slowly. The steep land changes her trip home each day.
- ③ Mr. Alvarez grows vegetables on flat land outside town. Because the ground is level, he can use a tractor to plant long, straight rows. Rainwater sometimes stays in low spots after a storm. He digs small ditches to lead the water away from young plants. The flat land helps him farm, but he must plan for wet ground.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How does the Missouri River help Jordan's family?

2 What challenge do spring floods create for Jordan?

3 How do the steep hills affect Mei's trip home? Give two details.

4 Why does Mr. Alvarez dig ditches after rainstorms?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Invent a person who lives near a geographic feature not named in the passage. Write exactly three sentences that name the feature, tell one way it helps the person, and tell one challenge it creates.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each geographic feature in the passage. Circle the words that show how that feature helps a person or creates a challenge. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the Missouri River help Jordan's family?	It gives the family water and a way to travel by boat to the market.
2	What challenge do spring floods create for Jordan?	Floods make Jordan help move tools to higher ground.
3	How do the steep hills affect Mei's trip home? Give two details.	Mei must walk up a long path, and carrying groceries uphill takes extra time and energy. In winter, ice can make the path slippery.
4	Why does Mr. Alvarez dig ditches after rainstorms?	Rainwater stays in low spots on the flat land, so he digs ditches to lead water away from young plants.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Amina lives near a desert. The dry, open land lets her family use solar panels to make electricity. Because water is scarce, she walks farther to fill containers at a well.

Accept answers that correctly connect a geographic feature to a specific help, challenge, or change in a person's daily life. For the open response, accept any plausible feature not named in the passage and three sentences that include both a benefit and a challenge.