

Landmark Detectives

Sort landscapes shaped by people from landscapes shaped by nature.

WG.10.c “analyzing cultural influences and landscapes; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

A cultural landscape has visible features that people create or change. It can show a group's beliefs, traditions, work, or technology.

A Maori meeting house with carved designs shows community traditions.

NATURAL LANDSCAPE

A natural landscape is a land feature made by natural processes, not by human actions.

A limestone cave formed as groundwater dissolved bedrock.

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle CULTURAL or NATURAL for each item, then for Part 2, choose two items and explain what evidence helped you sort each one.

1. Terraced rice fields built by farmers

CULTURAL

NATURAL

2. A mosque with a tall minaret

CULTURAL

NATURAL

3. A river-carved canyon

CULTURAL

NATURAL

4. A highway with bilingual road signs

CULTURAL

NATURAL

5. A lava field left by an eruption

CULTURAL

NATURAL

6. Desert sand dunes shaped by wind

CULTURAL

NATURAL

7. A historic waterfront market

CULTURAL

NATURAL

8. A glacier-carved valley

CULTURAL

NATURAL

2

PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3

MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

For Part 3, write one new example of a CULTURAL landscape and one new example of a NATURAL landscape.

CULTURAL _____

NATURAL _____

CHALLENGE

In exactly 2 sentences, describe a cultural landscape and explain one way a natural feature could influence where people build it or how they use it.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Terraced rice fields built by farmers	CULTURAL	Farmers reshaped the slopes for agriculture.
2	A mosque with a tall minaret	CULTURAL	It is a human-built place that reflects religious culture.
3	A river-carved canyon	NATURAL	Flowing water formed the canyon through natural erosion.
4	A highway with bilingual road signs	CULTURAL	People built the road and chose signs that reflect language use.
5	A lava field left by an eruption	NATURAL	Volcanic activity created the lava field.
6	Desert sand dunes shaped by wind	NATURAL	Wind moves sand and forms dunes naturally.
7	A historic waterfront market	CULTURAL	People built and used the market for trade.
8	A glacier-carved valley	NATURAL	Moving ice carved the valley.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CULTURAL:** A city plaza designed for public festivals.
- **NATURAL:** A rocky coastline shaped by ocean waves.

Challenge: A coastal fishing village reflects a community's work and traditions. Its sheltered harbor influences where people build docks and homes.

Accept a student explanation when it identifies human creation or change for CULTURAL items, or a natural process for NATURAL items. In Part 3, accept other accurate examples that clearly fit the category.