

East Asia Detective

Sort the features, then pick two and explain how you knew.

WG.10 "The student will analyze the characteristics of the East Asian region by identifying and analyzing the location of major geographic regions and major cities on maps and globes..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

PHYSICAL FEATURES

Physical features are parts of Earth that formed through natural processes. They include landforms, waterways, and climate features.

The Gobi Desert is a physical feature because it formed naturally.

HUMAN FEATURES

Human features are places, structures, activities, or cultural patterns created or shaped by people. They include cities, buildings, trade, and industry.

A Buddhist temple in Kyoto is a human feature because people built it.

1 SORT

8 items

For each item, circle PHYSICAL or HUMAN.

1. Tibetan Plateau

PHYSICAL

HUMAN

2. Yangtze River

PHYSICAL

HUMAN

3. Taklamakan Desert

PHYSICAL

HUMAN

4. Tokyo, Japan

PHYSICAL

HUMAN

5. Mount Fuji

PHYSICAL

HUMAN

6. Electronics factories in South Korea

PHYSICAL

HUMAN

7. Shanghai Port shipping goods

PHYSICAL

HUMAN

8. Korea Strait

PHYSICAL

HUMAN

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

Write one new PHYSICAL feature from East Asia and one new HUMAN feature from East Asia.

PHYSICAL _____

HUMAN _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one physical feature and one human feature from East Asia. Write two sentences explaining one way the physical feature can shape the human feature.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Tibetan Plateau	PHYSICAL	A plateau is a natural landform.
2	Yangtze River	PHYSICAL	A river is a natural waterway.
3	Taklamakan Desert	PHYSICAL	A desert is a natural environmental feature.
4	Tokyo, Japan	HUMAN	Tokyo is a city where people live and work.
5	Mount Fuji	PHYSICAL	Mount Fuji is a natural volcanic mountain.
6	Electronics factories in South Korea	HUMAN	Factories are built by people for manufacturing.
7	Shanghai Port shipping goods	HUMAN	Port trade is a human economic activity.
8	Korea Strait	PHYSICAL	A strait is a natural water passage between land areas.

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)

- **PHYSICAL:** Jeju Island
- **HUMAN:** A subway system in Beijing

Challenge: The Gobi Desert's dry climate limits the amount of farming nearby. People may build settlements near sources of water instead of in the driest areas.

For Part 2, students should explain that physical features form naturally or that human features are created or shaped by people. Accept accurate East Asian examples in Part 3 that fit the selected category.