

Landscapes Tell Stories

Sort features shaped by people from features shaped by nature.

WG.5.c "analyzing cultural influences and landscapes; and"

NAME _____

DATE _____

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

A cultural landscape feature was built or changed by people. It can show how a community lives, works, or values a place.

A public mural painted on a city wall.

PHYSICAL LANDSCAPE

A physical landscape feature is natural. Earth processes, water, wind, plants, and weather can form it.

Sand dunes shaped by wind.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle CULTURAL or PHYSICAL for each item, then choose two items and explain what clues helped you sort them.

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. A historic mosque with a minaret | ☐ CULTURAL | ☐ PHYSICAL |
| 2. A glacier | ☐ CULTURAL | ☐ PHYSICAL |
| 3. A volcanic crater | ☐ CULTURAL | ☐ PHYSICAL |
| 4. Terraced rice fields | ☐ CULTURAL | ☐ PHYSICAL |
| 5. A highway bridge | ☐ CULTURAL | ☐ PHYSICAL |
| 6. A neighborhood of adobe homes | ☐ CULTURAL | ☐ PHYSICAL |
| 7. A waterfall | ☐ CULTURAL | ☐ PHYSICAL |
| 8. A stone circle built for ceremonies | ☐ CULTURAL | ☐ PHYSICAL |

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 example of a CULTURAL landscape feature and one new example of a PHYSICAL landscape feature.

CULTURAL _____

PHYSICAL _____

CHALLENGE

A valley contains a dam, grapevines planted in neat rows, rocky cliffs, and a river. Name two CULTURAL features and two PHYSICAL features. Then explain in one sentence how people changed this place.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	A historic mosque with a minaret	CULTURAL	People designed and built the mosque for religious use.
2	A glacier	PHYSICAL	A glacier is a natural mass of moving ice.
3	A volcanic crater	PHYSICAL	Volcanic activity forms a crater.
4	Terraced rice fields	CULTURAL	People reshape slopes into terraces to grow crops.
5	A highway bridge	CULTURAL	People build bridges for travel.
6	A neighborhood of adobe homes	CULTURAL	People built the homes, and their style reflects local culture and materials.
7	A waterfall	PHYSICAL	Flowing water naturally forms a waterfall.
8	A stone circle built for ceremonies	CULTURAL	People arranged the stones for a cultural purpose.

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 fishing pier built by a coastal community.
- **PHYSICAL:** A canyon carved by a river.

Challenge: CULTURAL features: the dam and grapevines planted in rows. PHYSICAL features: the rocky cliffs and river. People changed the valley by building a dam and planting grapevines.

Accept equivalent descriptions that correctly identify whether people made or changed a feature. For Part 2, students should cite evidence such as building, planting, carving, flowing water, ice, wind, or volcanic activity.