

Landscapes Tell Stories

Sort human-shaped places from natural features.

WG.6.c “analyzing cultural influences and landscapes; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

A cultural landscape is built, arranged, or changed by people. It can show how a group lives, works, or worships.

A city plaza designed for public festivals

PHYSICAL LANDSCAPE

A physical landscape is a natural feature of Earth. It is formed by natural processes, not built or arranged by people.

A desert sand dune shaped by wind

1 SORT _____ 8 items

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

1. Terraced rice fields on a hillside

CULTURAL

PHYSICAL

2. A historic stone temple

CULTURAL

PHYSICAL

3. A river delta

CULTURAL

PHYSICAL

4. Bilingual street signs in a neighborhood

CULTURAL

PHYSICAL

5. A glacier-carved valley

CULTURAL

PHYSICAL

6. A coral reef

CULTURAL

PHYSICAL

7. A neighborhood built around a central mosque

CULTURAL

PHYSICAL

8. A vineyard laid out in rows

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

For Part 3, write one new CULTURAL landscape example and one new PHYSICAL landscape example.

CULTURAL _____

PHYSICAL _____

CHALLENGE

Explain how people could change one physical landscape into part of a cultural landscape. Name the natural feature and the human changes.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Terraced rice fields on a hillside	CULTURAL	People cut and maintain terraces to grow crops.
2	A historic stone temple	CULTURAL	People built the temple, and it reflects beliefs and history.
3	A river delta	PHYSICAL	Flowing water deposits sediment and forms a delta naturally.
4	Bilingual street signs in a neighborhood	CULTURAL	People choose the languages shown on signs, reflecting the community.
5	A glacier-carved valley	PHYSICAL	Moving ice carves valleys through natural processes.
6	A coral reef	PHYSICAL	Corals and natural ocean processes form reefs.
7	A neighborhood built around a central mosque	CULTURAL	People planned and built the neighborhood and mosque, reflecting religious life.
8	A vineyard laid out in rows	CULTURAL	People plant, arrange, and care for the grapevines.

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 village with houses built on stilts.
- **PHYSICAL:** A mountain ridge formed by uplift.

Challenge: A river valley is a physical landscape. When people build irrigation canals and farms across it, the valley becomes part of a cultural landscape.

Part 1 answers are 1 CULTURAL, 2 CULTURAL, 3 PHYSICAL, 4 CULTURAL, 5 PHYSICAL, 6 PHYSICAL, 7 CULTURAL, and 8 CULTURAL. For Part 2, accept explanations that correctly identify human choices or natural processes as evidence.