

Landform or Change

Tell a natural feature from a change in geography.

WG.7.b "describing major physical and environmental features and how geography may change over time;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

PHYSICAL FEATURE

A physical feature is a natural land or water form that can be located on Earth's surface.

A glacier-covered valley is a physical feature.

GEOGRAPHIC CHANGE

A geographic change is an event or process that makes an area's land, water, climate, or living systems different over time.

Volcanic ash creates new land after an eruption.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

For each item, circle FEATURE or CHANGE.

1. A chain of mountains

FEATURE

CHANGE

2. A coastline moves inland as sea level rises

FEATURE

CHANGE

3. A desert

FEATURE

CHANGE

4. A wetland is drained for farmland

FEATURE

CHANGE

5. A broad plain

FEATURE

CHANGE

6. A coral reef

FEATURE

CHANGE

7. A river changes course after a flood

FEATURE

CHANGE

8. A volcano

FEATURE

CHANGE

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

Part 2: Choose two numbered items, one FEATURE and one CHANGE, and explain in one sentence each why each belongs. Part 3: Write one new example of a FEATURE and one new example of a CHANGE.

FEATURE _____

CHANGE _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one physical feature you wrote. Describe one process that could change it over time in one complete sentence.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	A chain of mountains	FEATURE	Mountains are natural landforms.
2	A coastline moves inland as sea level rises	CHANGE	Rising sea level changes the location of the coastline over time.
3	A desert	FEATURE	A desert is a natural physical region.
4	A wetland is drained for farmland	CHANGE	Draining the wetland changes the environment and land use.
5	A broad plain	FEATURE	A plain is a natural landform.
6	A coral reef	FEATURE	A coral reef is a natural feature in the ocean.
7	A river changes course after a flood	CHANGE	The river's path changes over time.
8	A volcano	FEATURE	A volcano is a natural landform.

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)

- **FEATURE:** A natural harbor.
- **CHANGE:** A forest is cleared to build a city.

Challenge: Waves can wear away a natural harbor over time.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify a **FEATURE** as a natural land or water form and a **CHANGE** as something that alters an area over time. Student-created examples may vary if they fit the category accurately.