

Culture Leaves Clues

Sort ideas and customs from visible human-made landscapes.

WG.7.c "analyzing cultural influences and landscapes; and"

NAME _____

DATE _____

CULTURAL INFLUENCE

A cultural influence is an idea, belief, custom, or tradition that shapes how people live. It may not be something you can see on the land.

A community values caring for older relatives.

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

A cultural landscape is a visible part of a place that people have built or changed. It can show a group's culture, needs, or history.

A town square contains a memorial honoring local veterans.

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle the category for each item, then for Part 2, choose two items and explain which detail helped you sort each one.

1. Families celebrate Diwali each year.

INFLUENCE

LANDSCAPE

2. Rice fields are cut into steps along a steep hillside.

INFLUENCE

LANDSCAPE

3. A neighborhood has adobe homes built in a traditional style.

INFLUENCE

LANDSCAPE

4. Elders share ancestral stories with children.

INFLUENCE

LANDSCAPE

5. Families pass down recipes for traditional foods.

INFLUENCE

LANDSCAPE

6. A city installs street signs in two languages.

INFLUENCE

LANDSCAPE

7. Students learn a folk dance from their community.

INFLUENCE

LANDSCAPE

8. People observe a religious holiday with special customs.

INFLUENCE

LANDSCAPE

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 influence and one new example of a cultural landscape.

INFLUENCE _____

LANDSCAPE _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one cultural influence and explain in two sentences how it could lead people to create or change a cultural landscape.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Families celebrate Diwali each year.	INFLUENCE	Diwali is a religious and cultural tradition.
2	Rice fields are cut into steps along a steep hillside.	LANDSCAPE	Terraced fields are a visible human change to the land.
3	A neighborhood has adobe homes built in a traditional style.	LANDSCAPE	The homes are visible built features that reflect culture.
4	Elders share ancestral stories with children.	INFLUENCE	Stories passed between generations are cultural traditions.
5	Families pass down recipes for traditional foods.	INFLUENCE	Recipes are customs that shape food traditions.
6	A city installs street signs in two languages.	LANDSCAPE	The signs are visible features people added to a place.
7	Students learn a folk dance from their community.	INFLUENCE	A folk dance is a cultural custom.
8	People observe a religious holiday with special customs.	INFLUENCE	Holiday customs are beliefs and traditions that influence life.

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)

- **INFLUENCE:** Cultural Influence: Neighbors speak a heritage language at community gatherings.
- **LANDSCAPE:** Cultural Landscape: A village has a bridge decorated with local patterns.

Challenge: A community tradition of gathering outdoors could lead a town to build a plaza for celebrations. The plaza would become part of the cultural landscape because people changed the space to fit the tradition.

Items 1, 4, 5, 7, and 8 are INFLUENCE. Items 2, 3, and 6 are LANDSCAPE. For Part 2, look for an accurate reference to an idea or custom versus a visible feature people created or changed.