

## What are the assets and limitations of the Iroquois territory?

by RECITUS in French at <https://primaire.recitus.qc.ca/activites>.

Based specifically on [Quels sont les atouts et les contraintes du territoire iroquoien?](#) Under license Creative Commons BY-NC-SA

This activity introduces the concept of territory by taking the example of the Iroquoians around 1500. Students will practice **Competency 1: Read the organization of a society on its territory**

## What are the assets and limitations of the Iroquoian territory?

### 1 - Preparation

#### A) What is the Iroquoian territory?

On the map, identify where the Iroquoians settled.

- The Iroquoians settled in a region with a **humid continental climate**. ([link](#))
- They live in the St. Lawrence Lowlands are **plains** that are relatively **flat** along the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes. ( **flat relief** )

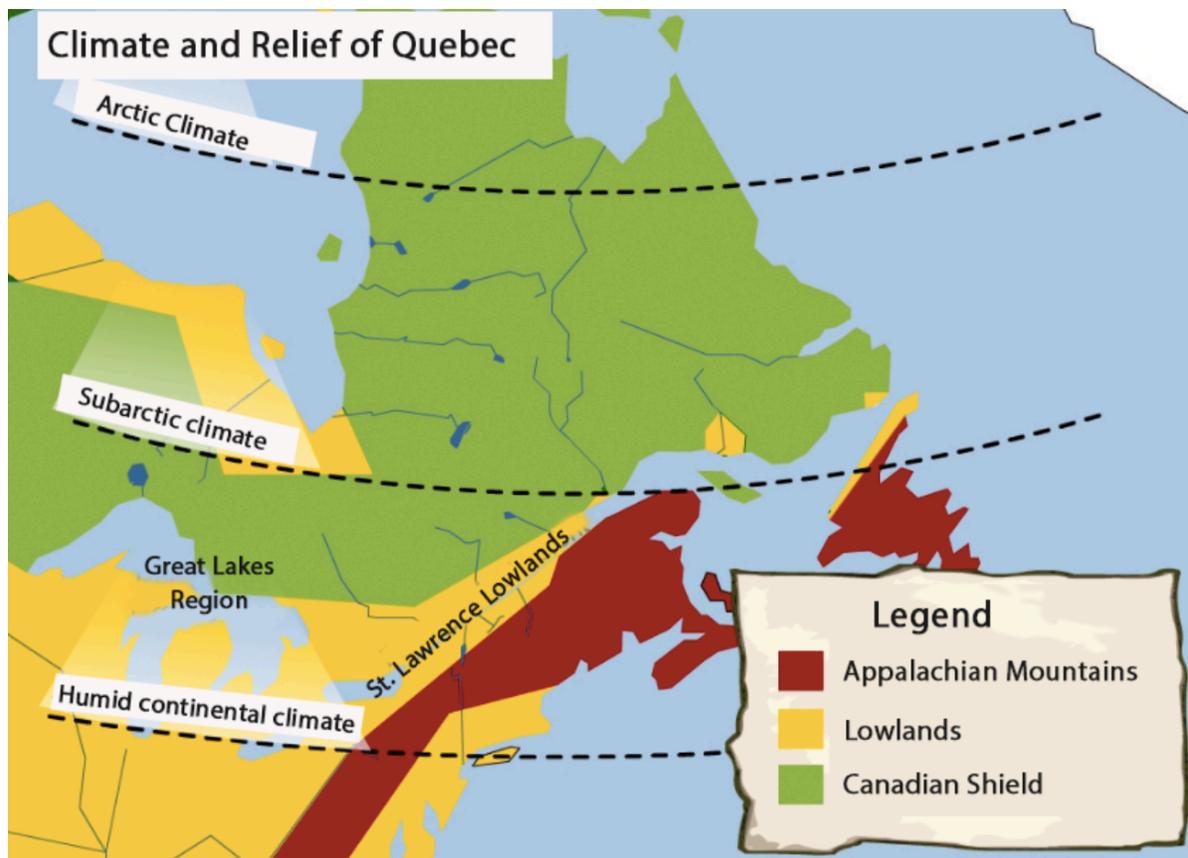


Image 1



In your opinion, what landscape best represents the Iroquoian territory? Why?



Image 2



Image 3

## 2- Realization phase

### A) What is the territory?

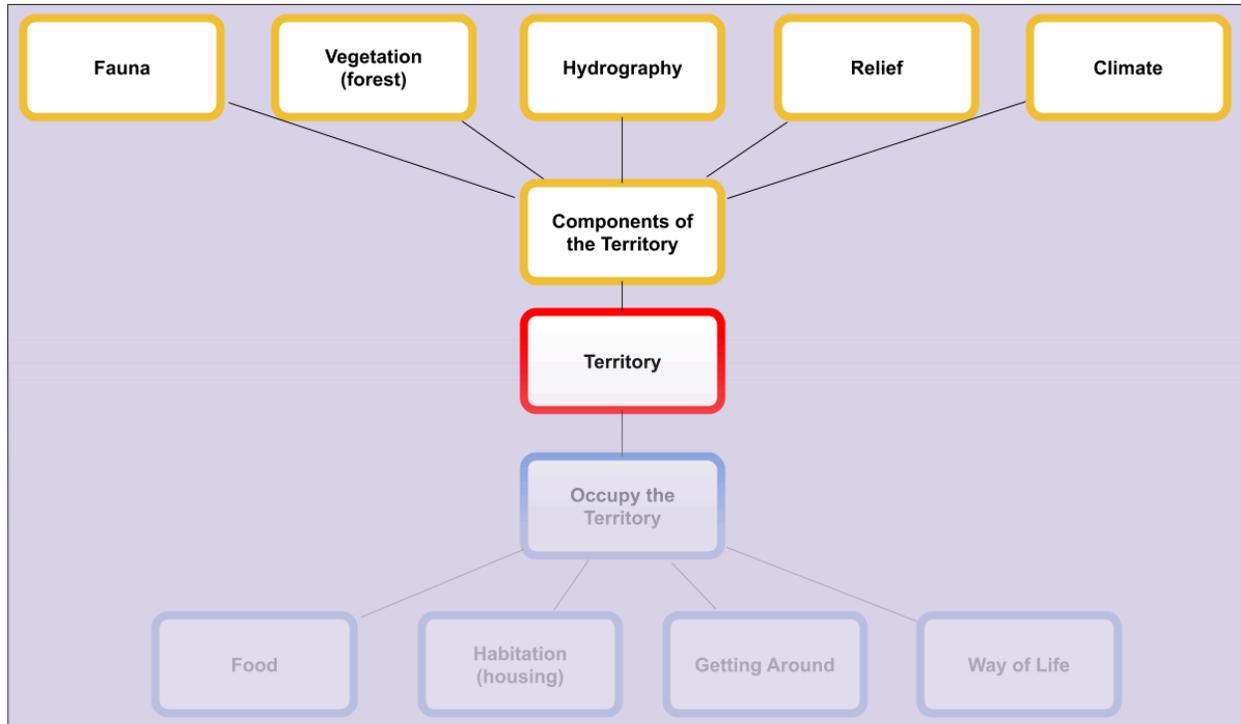


Image 4

Using the following [text](#), identify the elements that characterize the territory.

#### **A land and climate for farming**

The Iroquoian territory was fertile because it was located in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Lowlands, and the humid continental climate was good for farming. The Iroquoians mainly grew corn, squash and beans, which they call the three sisters. Berries like blueberries, raspberries, and strawberries, grew in abundance. There was also a wide variety of plants that were used in many ways, such as making medicines.

#### **Water, forests and animals**

There were many rivers on the territory. Getting around by canoe was very convenient. What's more, these rivers were full of fish and turtles. The forests contained several species of trees, like birch, oak, elm, fir and pine. These are called mixed forests because they have both coniferous and deciduous trees. They were home to several species of animals such as beavers, deer, bears and wolves.

#### **Natural resources for sustaining life**

All these natural resources provided the Iroquoians with everything they needed for food, clothing, shelter, medicine, and entertainment.

Text source and additional images: [A territory rich in natural resources](#)



## Components of the territory



**Fauna**

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**Vegetation**

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**Hydrography**

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Components of the territory	
 <p><b>Relief</b></p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
 <p><b>Climate</b></p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

## B) Human actions on the territory

Associates each image with one of the following actions: moving, feeding, dressing, housing and cultivating.  
Explain which elements of the image allow you to make this association.



Image 1

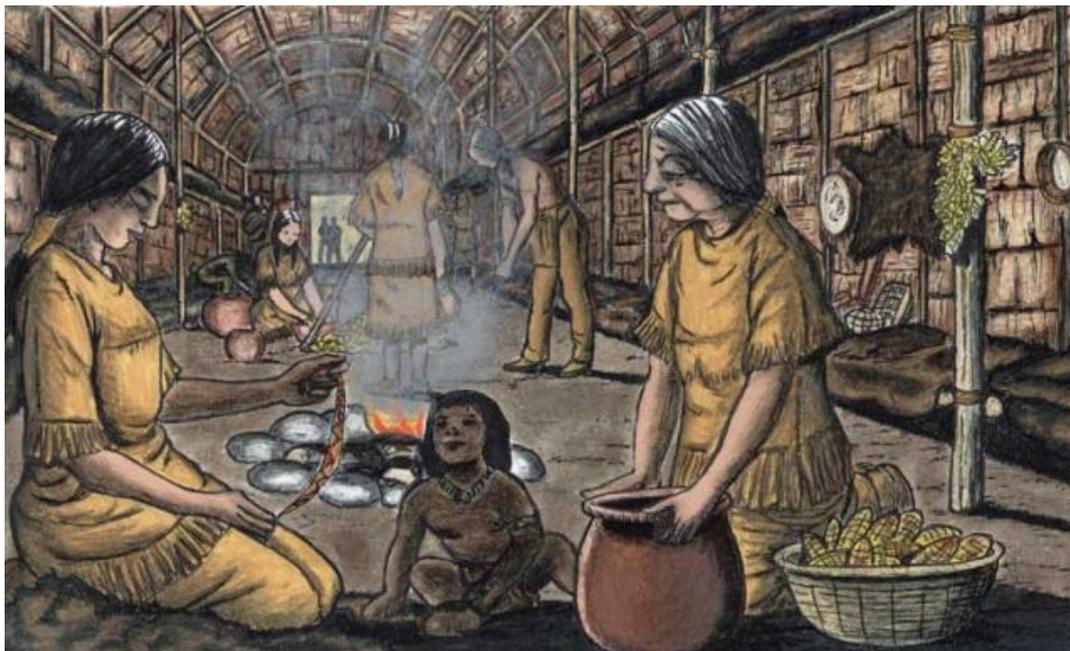


Image 2



Image 3



Image 4



Image 5



## C) What are the assets and limitations of the territory?

Task: Find the missing element for each of the equations.

(Make assumptions about the assets and limitations of the territory's components.)

### Components of the territory

 <b>Hydrography</b>	 <b>Vegetation</b>	 <b>Climate</b>	 <b>Relief</b>	 <b>Fauna</b>
Hydrography	Vegetation	Climate	Relief	Fauna

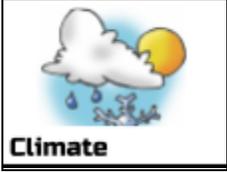
**Technology** : this activity can be done by manipulating the pictograms of the components of the territory (wildlife, vegetation, hydrography, relief and climate) using the: [SMARTBoard Student Workbook Notebook file](#)

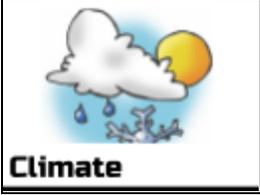
Here is an example:

<b>Getting around =</b>	Hydrography (water routes) +  <b>Hydrography</b>	Vegetation  <b>Vegetation</b>
<b>An asset or a limitation?</b>	The water route can be an asset but also a constraint, especially when there are rapids.	Using the bark of trees, the Iroquoians build canoes. This way, they can move faster, which becomes an asset. Rapids can be crossed by portaging.

<b>For food =</b>	_____ +	Vegetation  <b>Vegetation</b>
<b>An asset or a limitation?</b>	Fish is often on the menu as well as meats such as wild turkey (extinct now), and partridge, and wild pigeon (extinct).	



For clothing =	_____ +	<p>Winter</p> 
<b>An asset or a limitation?</b>		A limitation, it's cold.

To grow =	<p>St. Lawrence Lowlands +</p> 	<p>Summer</p> 
<b>An asset or a limitation?</b>		An advantage (asset): the temperature is mild in summer.

Housing =	<p>Climate +</p> 	_____
<b>An asset or a limitation?</b>		

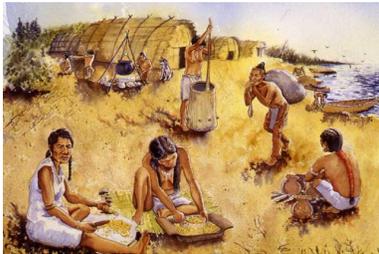
Using the following texts, check your assumptions and complete your answers if necessary.

- Getting around in Iroquoia: rivers and forest trails [Visit the site](#)
- Clothes for every season [Visit the site](#)
- Objects for every need [Visit the site](#)
- Corn porridge on the menu [Visit the site](#)



## 3-Integration

Analyze one of the five composite images by indicating the components of the territory presented there.  
Don't forget to specify the assets and limitations you have identified.



**Technology:** To perform this task, use software such as [Skitch](#), [Thinglink](#) or a slide show. It is also possible to analyze uploaded images attached to points or shapes in [Cartograf](#) using its built-in image tools (see [Help](#) section).



## Image sources

### Preparation

Image 1 : *Climat et relief du Québec*, Récit national de l'univers social. Licence : Creative Commons (BY-NC-SA).

Image 2 : Fralambert, *Chenal La Passe dans le parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville* (2009), [Wikimedia Commons](#). Licence : Creative Commons (BY-NC-SA). [Modification mineure par le Récit national de l'univers social]

Image 3 : Denis Bruneau, *Perspective sur le Lac Monroe* (2008), [Le monde en images](#), 48358. Licence : Creative Commons (BY-NC-SA).

Image 4 et les pictogrammes : Service national du Récit de l'univers social. Licence : Creative Commons (BY-NC-SA).

### Realization

Image 1 : [Vidéanthrop](#), *Les femmes iroquoiennes préparent le repas* (XVIIe siècle). Licence : Illustration gratuite pour une utilisation dans un contexte éducatif seulement et avec mention de la source originale « Vidéanthrop ». Il est interdit d'utiliser cette création à des fins commerciales, de la modifier, de la transformer ou de l'adapter. Par « contexte éducatif », nous entendons toute utilisation par un enseignant, un intervenant du monde scolaire ou un élève, pour des notes de cours, une situation d'apprentissage, la réalisation d'un site web ou tous autres travaux scolaires.

Image 2 : Diane Boily / Site Éducatif-UQTR, *La vie des Iroquoiens dans une maison-longue*, [AKI : Sociétés et Territoires autochtones](#). Licence : Libre de droit pour une utilisation pédagogique.

Image 3 : *Les Iroquoiens cultivaient les «trois soeurs»*, [New York State Museum](#). Licence : image du domaine public.

Image 4 : Cornelius Krieghoff, *Indiens en canot*, [Bibliothèque et Archives Canada](#), C-013455, MIKAN 2895762. Licence : image du domaine public.