

Name: _____

Native American Societies Before European Contact

Thematic Focus: Geography and the Environment (GEO)

Geographic and environmental factors, including competition over and debates about natural resources, shape the development of America and foster regional diversity. The development of America impacts the environment and reshapes geography, which leads to debates about environmental and geographic issues. Not only does the environment shape societies, but these societies in turn alter and transform the environment.

Comparison

Find your cultural region, mark it below, and compare it to the region listed.

- ☐ **Northeastern Woodlands ↔ Plains Sioux**
- ☐ **Plains Sioux ↔ Southwest Pueblo**
- ☐ **Plateau Nez Perce ↔ Mesoamerican Aztec**
- ☐ **Southwest Pueblo ↔ Subarctic Cree**
- ☐ **Southeastern Atlantic Cherokee ↔ Great Basin Paiute**
- ☐ **Mesoamerican Aztec ↔ Arctic Inuit**

[illegible]

Prompt: Compare how various native populations in the period before European contact interacted with the natural environment in North America.

Thesis Statement

Use the thesis statement frames below and your notes from above to write a thesis response to the prompt.

Frame:

Although [acknowledged alternative or counterpoint] is [plausible / important / worth considering], [your main argument] is the best / strongest / most significant [position or factor] because [reason(s)].

Example: (prompt comparing early English settlements in North America)

Even though both the Chesapeake and New England colonies were founded by English settlers, their development diverged sharply due to differences in religious motivation, patterns of settlement, and labor systems, resulting in distinct regional identities by the mid-17th century.