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## Native Americans – The First Americans

“The culture of most Native Americans developed in response to their environments. By the time the first Europeans arrived, Native Americans were fragmented into many small groups that had adapted to the different regions of North America”:

The Southwest:

- Zuni, Hopi, and other Pueblo peoples
- Depended on corn to survive but also grew squash and beans
- When a man married, he joined the household of his bride’s mother
- When boys turned six, they joined the kachina cult
  - A kachina was a good spirit
  - Believed kachinas visited their towns each year with messages from the gods
  - Members of the cult wore masks and danced to bring spirits to towns
- Around 1500s, Apache and Navajo came to the region from far northwest
  - Many Apache remained nomadic hunters but Navajo learned farming

The Pacific Coast:

- Included the Tlingit, Haida, Kwakiutls, Nootkas, Chinook, and Salish peoples
- Lived from what is now Alaska to Washington state
- Did not practice agriculture but lived in permanent settlements
- Fishing and canoes from wood in forests
- But between Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountains, groups like Shoshone lived a nomadic life

The Great Plains:

- When Europeans arrived, many people of Great Plains were nomads
- But had been farmers but war or drought possibly changed this
- Followed migrating buffalo herds and lived in tepees
- As horses from the Spaniards either escaped or were stolen, the animals spread
- Horses changed lives of Sioux in particular
- Sioux men became great hunters and warriors

The Far North:

- Inuit and Aleut
- From Alaska to Greenland
- Hunting, harpoon, kayak, dogsled, boots with ivory spikes for walking on ice, and goggles to prevent snow blindness

The Eastern Woodlands:

- East of Mississippi and south of Great Lakes
- Hunting, fishing, and farming
- Algonquian languages and Iroquoian languages
- From Hudson River to southern Ontario were the Iroquois
- Slash-and-burn-agriculture, longhouses or wigwams, and wampum belts

The Southeast:

- Lived in towns; women farmed; men hunted
- Cherokee were the largest group in the Southeast
  - Cherokee lived in what is today North Carolina and eastern Tennessee

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1. The Sioux of the Great Plains were profoundly affected by the
  - a) Cultivation of tobacco
  - b) Introduction of settled agriculture
  - c) Introduction of wheat and rye into North America
  - d) Introduction of the horse into North America
2. The first human inhabitants of the western hemisphere came from
  - a) Western Europe
  - b) Northeastern Asia
  - c) Africa
  - d) the Middle East
3. The primary source of food for the hunters of the Great Plains was
  - a) Maize.
  - b) Buffalo.
  - c) Fish.
  - d) Wheat
4. The people of the Pacific Northwest traveled in canoes to
  - a) Net salmon.
  - b) Harpoon whales.
  - c) Gather clams.
  - d) All of these are correct.
5. Why were American societies more susceptible to communicable diseases than their European counterparts after contact?
  - a) American societies had too many domesticated animals that transmitted communicable diseases.
  - b) American societies did not have enough domesticated animals transmitting diseases.
  - c) American societies had fewer cities than did European societies.
  - d) Tuberculosis was more contagious than smallpox.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ tribes lived along the Pacific coast.
  - a) Northwest
  - b) Great Plains
  - c) Eastern Woodlands
  - d) The Far North
7. The Native American Indians of the Far North developed goggles and boots with ivory spikes
  - a) to improve their ability to hunt buffalo
  - b) to improve their ability to farm
  - c) to improve their ability to live in a cold climate with ice and snow
  - d) to improve their ability to use the trees of the forest
8. How do scientists think people first migrated to the Americas?
  - a) They walked from Asia across the Bering Strait land bridge.
  - b) They sailed from Polynesia in large canoes.
  - c) They paddled across the Bering Strait from Siberia in kayaks.
  - d) They rowed from Iceland in sturdy boats.
9. To survive in different areas, native peoples had to learn to
  - a) Develop their own religions
  - b) Build houses out of wood
  - c) Adapt to their environment
  - d) Speak the same language
10. Native Americans living on the Northwest Coast got most of their food from
  - a) buffalo herds
  - b) desert plants
  - c) their own farms
  - d) the Pacific Ocean

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11. The buffalo provide food, clothing, tools, and shelter for Native Americans of the

- a) Northwest Coast
- b) Eastern Woodlands
- c) Plateau Region
- d) Great Plains

12. "My tribe is nomadic. We follow the buffalo across the plains in order to get food, shelter, and clothing. The buffalo is essential to our way of life."

The quote above would most likely be associated with which tribe of Native Americans?

- a) Sioux
- b) Iroquois
- c) Hopi
- d) Algonquin

13. The theory that Native American Indians migrated across a land bridge from Asia to settle in North America is based on?

- a) political studies
- b) archaeological discoveries
- c) diaries written during the migration
- d) modern short stories written by Native Americans

14. Which of the four major Native American groups was located closest to the Atlantic Ocean?

- (1) The Southwest Native Americans
- (2) The Eastern Woodland Native Americans
- (3) The Pacific Northwest Native Americans
- (4) The Plains Native Americans

15. What geographic region did the group of Native Americans known as the Iroquois belong to?

- a) Plains
- b) Eastern Woodlands
- c) Southwest
- d) Pacific Northwest

16. The Iroquois of the northeast lived in bark-covered longhouses. The Cheyenne of the western plains lived in buffalo-hide tepees. What is the best explanation for the difference in housing style?

- a) The Iroquois developed housing to fit their lifestyles but the Cheyenne did not.
- b) The Cheyenne were better hunters than the Iroquois and were able to get the necessary hides.
- c) Neither group had enough technology to build homes suited to their environments.
- d) Both groups used the materials around them in the development of their housing.

17. What is the main method archaeologist's use to study history?

- (1) reading diaries of a given group
- (2) examining artifacts of a specific people
- (3) observing people in their natural environment
- (4) practicing local customs of people

18. From west to east the major geographic features of the United States are the

- a) Rocky Mountains - Great Plains - Mississippi River - Appalachian Mountains
- b) Great Plains - Mississippi River - Rocky Mountains - Appalachian Mountains
- c) Rocky Mountains - Great Plains - Appalachian Mountains - Mississippi River
- d) Mississippi River - Appalachian Mountains - Great Plains - Rocky Mountains

19. A society's traditions, customs, technology, and language make up its?

- a) Culture
- b) Political System
- c) Economy
- d) Environment