



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Course: US History/Ms. Brown

Homeroom:



7th Grade US History  
Standard #7H117 - Do Now - Day #17

**Aims:** SWBAT read and analyze a map locating representative Native American populations  
SWBAT compare how geography affected food sources, shelter, and cultural patterns of Native American societies

**DO NOW**

**Directions:** Carefully examine this picture of the Canadian forest. Imagine you have suddenly been placed in this environment, and you must survive there for a year. In the space below, answer the questions that follow.



Draw it: Your shelter

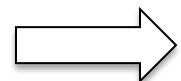
Draw it: Your Clothing

Draw it: Tools to gather food

Why did you design your items the way that you did? Be sure to include the natural resources you would use. (write your answer on the next page)

US History, Ms. Brown

Need Help? Email: [abrown@democracyprep.org](mailto:abrown@democracyprep.org) or Call 646.477.2663





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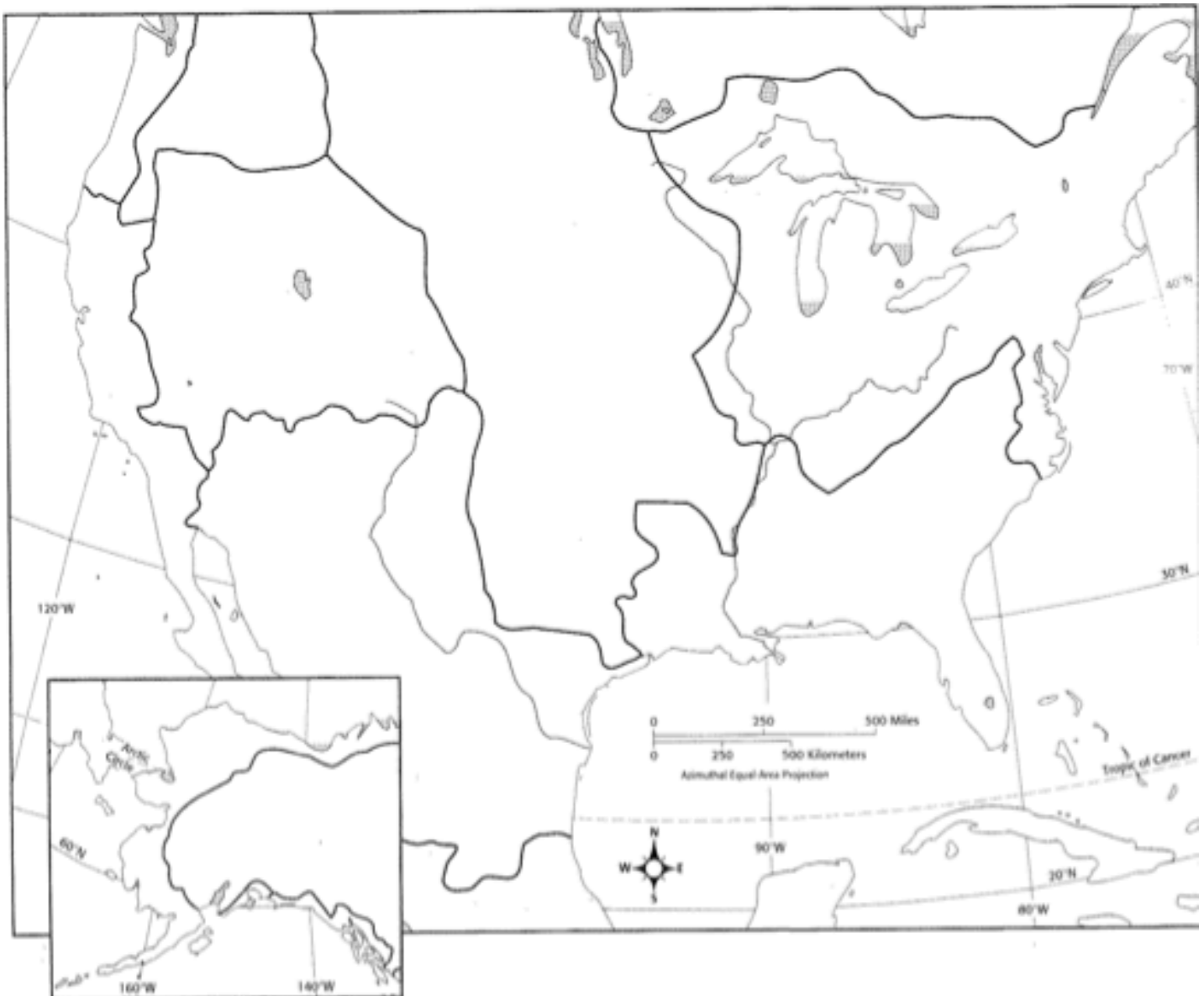
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**Daily Debrief**

Dear Brainiacs,

Yesterday we learned about how early people *migrated* to the Americas by crossing the Bering Land Bridge. The Bering Land Bridge was a bridge made of ice that connected Siberia (Russia) to Alaska. Today we will learn how the Native Americans spread out across North America into various cultural regions. We will also learn more about how their lives varied based on their environments.

According to the map how many Native American culture regions are there?





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List the Native American Cultural Regions Below

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
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- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Which cultural region would New York be part of? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the northern most Native American cultural region? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the southern most Native American cultural region? \_\_\_\_\_

Which is the only cultural region that is not attached to the North American landmass?

\_\_\_\_\_

## II. Key Content Terms

### Migration Routes of the First Americans

The first Americans probably migrated on foot from Siberia, in Asia, to present-day Alaska. Today, Alaska and Asia are separated by a strip of ocean called the Bering Strait. But there was a time when a land bridge connected them.

**Across a Land Bridge** About 30,000 years ago, the most recent Ice Age began. As temperatures fell, much of the earth was covered by glaciers, sheets of ice up to a mile thick. With water locked up in the glaciers the level of the oceans

**migrate:** To move from one place and establish a home in a new place. A move of a large number of people is called a *migration*, and the people who move are called *migrants*. Some animals also migrate, usually with the seasons.

dropped 200 feet. This exposed a wide bridge of land between Asia and North America that scientists call Beringia.

In the summer, Beringia's grasslands attracted large Asian mammals such as mammoths, long-haired cousins of the elephant. Over thousand of families followed. Armed with only stone topped spears, they killed these huge powerful animals for food. Eventually, perhaps between 10,000 and 20,000 years ago some of them reached America. Other migrants may have traveled along the coast of Beringia by boat to catch fish, seals and other marine mammals.

1. Define the term *Beringia* in your own words. Then draw a simple illustration to represent the term.

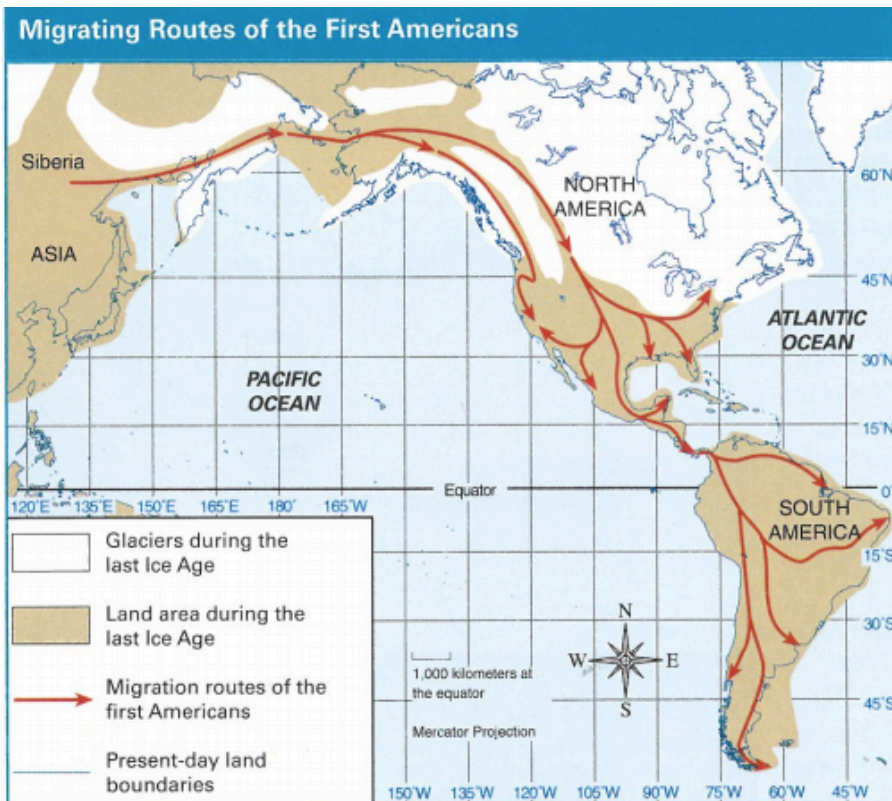
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Scientists believe that the first Americans migrated from Siberia to Alaska across a land bridge called Beringia. These people were following mammoths and other prey that moved east in search of grazing land.



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2. According to the map where did the first Americans come from?

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3. According to the map where did the first Americans migrate to?

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### Native Americans Adapt to the Environment

Native Americans lived in a variety of places, from snowy forests to dry deserts and vast grasslands. Each of these kinds of places is an **environment**. An environment includes everything that surrounds us – land, water, animals, and plants. Each environment also has a climate, or long term weather pattern. Groups of Native Americans survived by adapting, or changing, their style of living to suit each environment, its climate, and its **natural resources**.

**Using Natural Resources** Native Americans learned to use the natural resources in their environments for food, clothing, and shelter. In the frigid regions of the far north, early Americans survived by hunting caribou in the summer and sea mammals in the winter. They fashioned warm, hooded clothing from animal skins. To avoid being blinded by the glare of the sun shining on the snow, they made goggles out of bone with slits to see through.

The people of the north lived most of the year in houses made from driftwood and animal skins. In winter, hunters built temporary shelters called *iglus* out of blocks of snow.

In warmer climates, early Americans gathered wild plants. Then, about 7,000 years ago, they learned how to raise crops such as squash, chili peppers, beans and corn. Growing their own food enabled them to settle in one place instead of following animals or searching for edible plants in the wild. These farmers built the first villages and towns in America.

4. Give two examples of how American Indians used natural resources to adapt to their environments.

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**environment:** all of the physical surroundings in a place, including land, water, animals, plants, and climate

**natural resources:** useful materials found in nature, including water, vegetation, animals, and minerals

**culture:** a people's way of life, including beliefs, customs, food, dwellings, and clothing

**cultural region:** an area in which a group of people share a similar culture and language



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**Native American Cultural Regions**

Over generations, groups of Native Americans developed their own **cultures**, or ways of life. Many became part of larger groupings that were loosely organized under common leaders.

Groups living in the same type of environment often adapted in similar ways. Forest dwellers often lived in houses covered with tree bark, while many desert peoples made shelters out of branches covered with brush (leaves).

Using artifacts (items made by people, historians have grouped Native American peoples into **cultural regions**. A cultural region is made up of people who share a similar language and way of life.

By the 1400s, between one and two million Native Americans lived in ten major cultural regions north of Mexico. They include the Northwest Coast, California, the Great Basin, the Plateau, the Southwest, the Great Plains, the Eastern Woodlands and the Southeast.

5. In your own words describe what *culture* means.

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6. Which American Indian cultural region do we live in? \_\_\_\_\_



7. What type of clothing would most American Indians on the Plains wear?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





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8. What type of food would Native Indians living in the Great Basin eat?

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9. What type of housing did Americans Indians living in the Southeast build?

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**HOMEWORK**

\_\_\_\_\_/10 Mastered/Passing/Not Mastered

Some Native American Indian Cultures			
Culture	Location	Food Source	Environment
Pacific Northwest Coast	Western coast, Oregon to Alaska	Fishing	Coastal, with forests
Anasazi	Southwest, chiefly Arizona and New Mexico	Farming	Mountainous river valleys
Iroquois	Northeast, chiefly New York	Hunting and farming	Woodlands of the North
Creek	Southeast, Alabama and Georgia	Farming with some hunting	Southern climate, semitropical

Source: *Exploring American History Workbook*, Globe Book Co. (adapted)

1. In what area did the Iroquois live? (1)

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2. What food source did the Anasazi use? (1)

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3. Which tribe lived in a Southern climate?

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4. What inference can you draw about the environment in which Native Americans lived? (2)

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**Read this Sioux quotation.**

*From Wakan Tanka, the Great Spirit, there came a great unifying life force that flowed in and through all things—the flowers of the plains, blowing winds, rocks, trees, birds, animals.*

**What does this quotation reveal about how the American Indians viewed the environment? Write at least 3 sentences giving supporting details. (1 claim and 2 examples supporting your claim)**

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**EXIT TICKET**

\_\_\_\_\_/5 Mastered/Passing/Not Mastered

1 According to many anthropologists, a land bridge during the Ice Age allowed migration between which two continents?

- a. South America and North America
- b. North America and Europe
- c. Asia and North America
- d. Europe and Asia

2. Many anthropologists believe that people from Asia crossed a land bridge to North America to

- a. escape religious persecution
- b. hunt migrating animals
- c. capture native peoples of this region
- d. search for gold and other riches

3. Which situation provides the best evidence that the Iroquois (Haudensosaunee) adapted to the physical environment?

- a. Living in longhouses made of wood and bark
- b. Speaking a language different from that of their neighbors
- c. Developing an alliance with the Algonquins
- d. Including women in the governing process

4. Inuits wore clothing made of seal and caribou skins. Pueblos wore clothing made of woven cotton. Algonquins wore clothing made of deerskin. These differences in clothing were most likely the result of

- a. Traditional religious practices
- b. Available natural resources
- c. Family kinship requirements
- d. Competing customs in fashion