

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Read Historic Text

### Practice

Read the following excerpt. Print this page and then write your answers.

#### Chapter One: Who Lived Here First

##### *People of the Northwest Coast*

The mild climate and the geography of the Northwest Coast provided what early people needed. The ocean and rivers were full of seafood and fish. Thick forests provided plenty of plants and animals to eat. Because food was abundant, not everyone had to work at gathering or preparing it. Some people spent time creating works of art or conducting religious ceremonies.

People of the Northwest Coast were expert traders. They traveled in dug-outs—boats made by hollowing out large logs—to groups in other areas. These people traded dried fish, shells, whale products, cedar, jewelry, baskets, copper, and other items.

For the Makah (muh KAH) people of the northwest Pacific coast, the whale was an animal of great power. A whale hunt, therefore, was a dangerous job. People often prayed and fasted—gave up eating for a period of time—before a whale hunt.

When they spotted a whale, hunters moved in with their canoes. The head harpooner threw a harpoon. The harpoon was not meant to kill the whale; it was meant to secure sealskin floats, attached to the harpoon line. The floats acted like big balloons and slowed the whale. When the whale tired, the hunters killed it and towed it home.

Native Americans used all parts of the whale. Whales gave the Makah oil, meat, bone, sinew, and other useful things. In return the Makah showed respect for whales by honoring them in their songs, dances, and artwork.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

***People of the Plains***

The Plains lie between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains. The region stretches up to Canada and down to Texas. Once, millions of bison roamed the prairies of the Plains. The American bison, commonly called buffalo, were very important to the people who lived there.

Some Plains people, such as the Cheyenne (shy AN), moved from place to place, following the bison. The Cheyenne made shelters by tying together wooden poles at the top and covering them with buffalo skins. These cone-shaped shelters, called teepees, were easy to take apart. They were also easy for the Cheyenne to carry on their frequent moves.

Many Native American groups lived on the Plains. Some, such as the Mandan (MAN duhn), lived in villages along rivers, where the land was lush and good for farming. The Mandan women built domed homes called lodges made from clay, mud, sticks, and hay. The women also did most of the farming, growing maize, beans, pumpkins, sunflowers, and tobacco. The men's responsibilities included hunting and fishing.

Before horses arrived with Europeans, Plains peoples hunted buffalo on foot. One method was the buffalo jump. Some hunters waved blankets and shouted, chasing the buffalo over the edge of a cliff. Other hunters waited below and cut up the carcasses, or bodies, of the dead animals.

Buffalo were critical to the survival of the Plains people. They ate the meat and used other parts of a buffalo's carcass in many ways.

1. List the people, events, and concepts in this text that are related.

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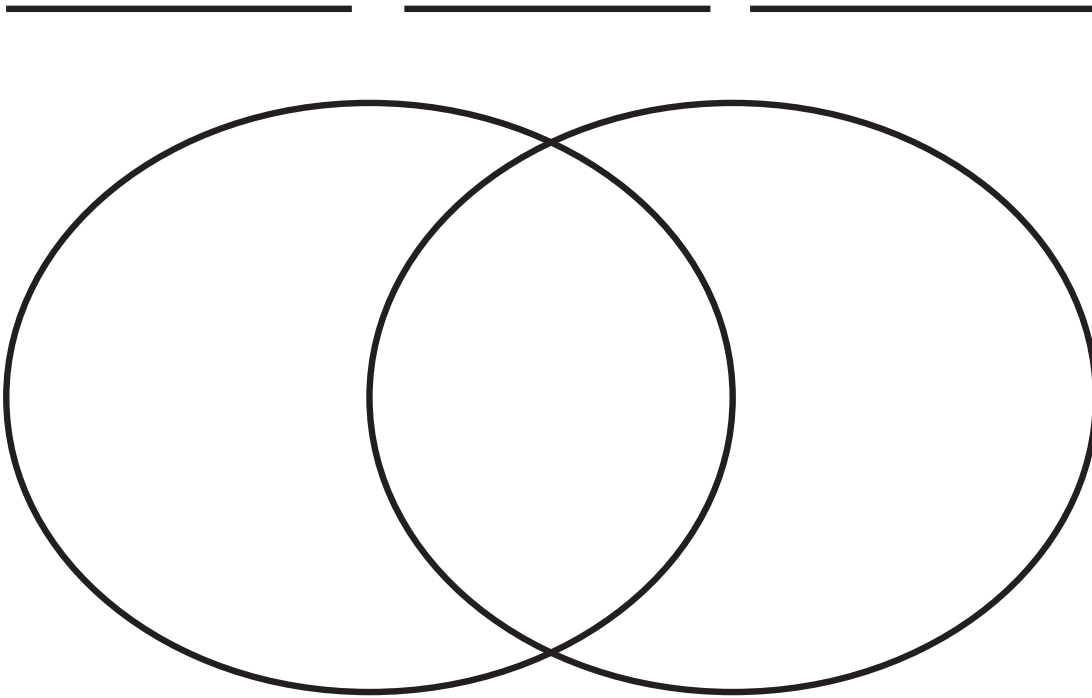
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**Part 2 READING:  
INFORMATIONAL TEXT**

**2.1 Key Ideas and Details**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

2. Compare and contrast people, events, and concepts in this text by completing the Venn diagram.



3. Paraphrase the relationship between the people, events, and concepts in this selection.

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