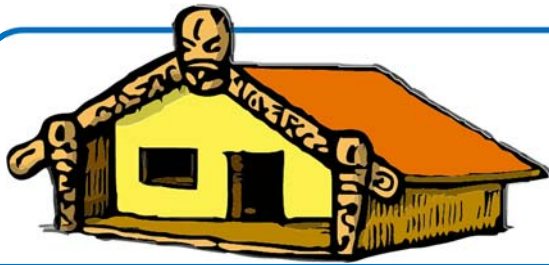


Name _____



Oceania's Colonial Legacies

Directions: Read the historical text about colonization in Oceania. Then answer the analysis and reflection questions that follow.

Colonization in Oceania

European colonization reshaped many regions of Oceania, beginning in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. British colonization had a major influence on Australia and New Zealand, while France, Germany, and the United States controlled various Pacific Islands at different times. Colonization often brought new political systems and economic structures that replaced or disrupted existing Indigenous governance. Indigenous peoples faced loss of land, forced relocation, cultural suppression, and diseases brought by colonizers that caused severe population decline.

Despite these impacts, Indigenous groups such as Aboriginal Australians, Māori, and Pacific Island communities worked to preserve their languages, traditions, and social systems. In the twentieth century, many Oceania nations moved toward independence, reclaiming political authority and cultural identity. Today, the long term effects of colonization can still be seen in modern governments, land ownership debates, language revitalization efforts, and social inequalities. The region continues to balance its colonial histories with efforts to strengthen cultural pride and self determination.

1. What were two major changes introduced by European colonizers in Oceania?
2. How did colonization affect Indigenous populations in terms of health and culture?
3. Why do modern debates about land ownership connect back to the colonial period?
4. Identify one example of cultural resilience described in the text.
5. In your opinion, what is one long term effect of colonization that continues to shape Oceania today? Explain your reasoning using evidence from the text.