



Name _____

Cultural Landscapes

Directions: Read the case study below. Then answer the analysis questions using clear reasoning and evidence.

In the high valleys of the central Andes, a small Quechua-speaking community continues cultural traditions that date back hundreds of years. Their homes are built from local stone and clay, and families grow crops such as potatoes and quinoa on terraced fields carved into steep mountain slopes. These terraces were first created by ancient Andean civilizations to adapt farming to the rugged terrain. Because of the high altitude, the community relies on wool from alpacas and llamas for clothing and trade. Travel between villages can be slow due to narrow mountain paths, so many cultural practices and languages have remained strong within each valley. Although modern technology is slowly reaching these areas, the physical geography still plays a major role in shaping daily life, culture, and economic choices.

1. How has the mountainous geography influenced the way people farm in this community?
2. What role does altitude play in the community's clothing and animal use?
3. Why have cultural traditions and languages remained strong in these highland villages?
4. How has the geography impacted transportation and communication between communities?
5. Based on the case study, explain how physical geography can shape a region's long-term cultural identity.