

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

### Version 1- Background Information for Teachers and Answer Key

**Cultural History Vocabulary**- Look up these words in a dictionary or online. Make sure you check your online source to make sure it is an accurate site.

**Chinook**- This tribal group is several groups of Northwest who speak the Chinookan languages. Chinookan-speaking peoples reside along the Lower and Middle Columbia River (Wimahl) ("Big River") from the river's gorge (near the present town of The Dalles, Oregon) downstream (west) to the river's mouth, and along adjacent portions of the coasts, from Tillamook Head of present-day Oregon in the south, north to Willapa Bay in southwest Washington.

Chinook resided in longhouses. More than fifty people, related through extended kinship, often resided in one longhouse. Their longhouses were made of planks made from red cedar trees.

Some Chinookan speaking people are part of several federally recognized Tribes: the Yakama Nation (primarily Wishram, upper Washington side Chinookans), the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation (primarily Wasco, Upper Oregon side Chinookans), Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community (Middle Chinookan people), Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians (Upper and Middle Chinookans).

The Chinook Indian Nation, consisting of the five westernmost Tribes of Chinookan peoples, Lower Chinook, Clatsop, Willapa, Wahkiakum and Kathlamet is currently (2020) working to obtain federal recognition.

From: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinookan\\_peoples](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinookan_peoples)

**Umatilla**- The **Umatilla** are a Sahaptin-speaking Native American tribe who traditionally inhabited the Columbia Plateau region of the northwestern United States, along the Umatilla and Columbia rivers. The Umatilla nation was bordered by the Teninos to the West and the Klickitats to north, across the Columbia River.<sup>[2]</sup> Also by their northern border were the Paluse, Wasco-Wishrams.<sup>[2]</sup> They had friendly Cayuse, and Walla Walla tribes to the east, Because of their homeland lacked natural defenses, the Umatillas were attacked from the south by groups of Bannocks and Paiutes.

Linguistically, the Umatilla language is part of the Sahaptin division of the Penutian language family — closely related to other peoples of today's Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington, and the Idaho panhandle. These included the Nez Percé, Cayuse, Walla Walla, Palouse and the Yakima. From: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Umatilla\\_people](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Umatilla_people)

**Nez Perce**- also known as the Nimiipuu people, have always resided and subsisted on lands that included the present-day Nez Perce Reservation in north-central Idaho.

Today, the Nez Perce Tribe is a federally recognized tribal nation with more than 3,500 citizens. From <https://nezperce.org/>

The Nez Perce call themselves the Niimiipuu, meaning "the walking people" or "we, the people")<sup>[2]</sup> are an Indigenous people of the Plateau who are presumed to have lived on the Columbia River Plateau in the Pacific Northwest region for at least 11,500 years.

Members of the Sahaptin language group, the Niimiipuu were the dominant people of the Columbia Plateau for much of that time, especially after acquiring the horses that led them to breed the appaloosa horse in the 18th century.

Prior to first contact with Western civilization the Nimiipuu were economically and culturally influential in trade and war, interacting with other indigenous nations in a vast network from the western shores of Oregon and Washington, the high plains of Montana, and the northern Great Basin in southern Idaho and northern Nevada.

From: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nez\\_Perce\\_people](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nez_Perce_people)

**Warm Springs-** a Native American reservation in north- central Oregon that includes the following 3 groups:

-The **Wasco** bands on the Columbia River were the eastern-most group of Chinookan-speaking Indians. Although they were principally fishermen, their frequent contact with other Indians throughout the region provided for abundant trade. Roots and beads were available from other Chinookan bands such as the Clackamas. Game, clothing and horses came from trade with Sahaptin bands such as the neighboring Warm Springs and the more distant Nez Perce. In exchange for these goods, the Wasco traded root bread, salmon meal, and bear grass.

-**The Warm Springs** bands who lived along the Columbia's tributaries spoke Sahaptin. Unlike the Wascoes, the Warm Springs bands moved between winter and summer villages, and depended more on game, roots and berries. However, salmon was also an important staple for the Warm Springs bands, and, like the Wascoes, they built elaborate scaffolding over waterfalls which allowed them to harvest fish with long-handled dip nets. Contact between the Warm Springs bands and the Wascoes was frequent, and, although they spoke different languages and observed different customs, they could converse and traded heavily.

-**The Paiutes** lived in southeastern Oregon and spoke a Shoshonean dialect. The lifestyle of the Paiutes was considerably different from that of the Wasco and Warm Springs bands. Their high-plains existence required that they migrate further and more frequently for game, and fish was not an important part of their diet. The Paiute language was foreign to the Wasco and Warm Springs bands, and commerce among them was infrequent. In early times, contact between them often resulted in skirmishes. Although Paiute territories historically included a large area from southeastern Oregon into Nevada, Idaho, and western Utah, the Paiute bands which eventually settled at Warm Springs lived in the area of Lake, Harney, and Malheur counties in Oregon.

From: <https://warmsprings-nsn.gov/history/>

**Cascades tribe-** The **Watlala** are a group of Chinookan-speaking Native Americans. They inhabited the meadows of Sams Walker Day Use Site, near Skamania, Washington, and St. Cloud Ranch Day Use Site. An interpretive sign at Sams Walker states that the Watlala lived in earth-sheltered cedar plank homes temporary structures made from willow.

Also called the Cascade Indians, they were a Chinookan tribe who lived at the Cascades of the Columbia River and the Willamette River in Oregon. They fished and hunted the animals in the Cascade. In 1805-06 Lewis and Clark estimated that they numbered about 2,800 and in 1870, along with the Wasco, they had an estimated population of about 3,200. As there were also other tribes lived at or near the cascades and the people were very changeable due to the location being a popular fishing spot, it was impossible to identify them with certainty. Several other known bands, which may have been the Watlala or later have been included under them, included the Cathlakaheckit, Cathlathlala, Cathlayackty, Clahclellah, Katlagakya, Yehuh.

From: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Watlala>

**Cascades Rapids** (sometimes called **Cascade Falls** or **Cascades of the Columbia**) were an area of rapids along North America's Columbia River, between the U.S. states of Washington and Oregon. Through a stretch approximately 150 yards (140 m) wide, the river dropped about 40 feet (12 m) in 2 miles (3.2 km).<sup>[1]</sup> These rapids or cascades, along with the many cascades along the Columbia River Gorge in this area of Oregon and Washington, gave rise to the name for the surrounding mountains: the Cascade Range. From: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cascades\\_Rapids](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cascades_Rapids)

**Navigation Lock:** a device used for raising and lowering boats, ships and other watercraft between stretches of water of different levels on river and canal waterways. The distinguishing feature of a lock is a fixed chamber in which the water level can be varied

From: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lock\\_\(water\\_navigation\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lock_(water_navigation))

**Value (noun)-** relative worth, utility, or importance. Something (such as a principle or quality) intrinsically valuable or desirable. Also: morals, ethics, or principles.

From: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/value>

**Trade-** an exchange of property usually without use of money. From: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/trade>

**Commodity-** an economic good: such as an agricultural or mining good, an article of commerce especially when delivered for shipment. Also, **something** useful or valued. From <https://www.merriamwebster.com/dictionary/commodity>

