

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Settlement Secret: A 4th Grade Survival Expedition

Why do some cities thrive while others vanish? Analyze the high-stakes decisions humans make when modifying land and managing scarce resources.

1. In the arid American Southwest, the Ancestral Puebloans built 'canals' to direct rainwater to their crops. This is a primary example of:

- A. Adapting to a lack of sunlight
- B. Modifying the land to manage water scarcity
- C. Depending on frequent tropical rainstorms
- D. Ignoring the natural environment entirely

2. True or False: When a city builds a massive sea wall to protect houses from rising tides, they are modifying the environment to reduce risk.

- A. True
- B. False

3. The process of cutting step-like benches into steep mountainsides to create flat land for farming is known as _____.

- A. Deforestation
- B. Terracing
- C. Urbanization
- D. Irrigation

4. Consider a city like Phoenix, Arizona. Which technology most allowed humans to 'modify' their daily life to survive the extreme summer heat?

- A. Hydroelectric dams
- B. Solar-powered cars
- C. Large-scale air conditioning
- D. Natural gas heating

5. When humans build a dam across a river, they gain electricity, but a negative _____ is that fish migration routes are often blocked.

- A. Adaptation
- B. Benefit
- C. Consequence
- D. Resource

6. The nomadic Bedouin people of the Arabian Desert move their livestock frequently to find water and grass. This behavior is an example of:

- A. Climatic modification

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

- B. Environmental dependence
- C. Environmental adaptation
- D. Resource restoration

7. True or False: Using wind turbines to create energy is a way humans depend on natural renewable resources.

- A. True
- B. False

8. If a logging company regenerates a forest by planting two trees for every one they cut down, they are attempting to:

- A. Increase environmental degradation
- B. Minimize the negative consequences of their modification
- C. Completely stop depending on wood
- D. Adapt to a world without forests

9. The use of 'Pesticides' in farming helps grow more food, but it can lead to _____ when the chemicals wash into local streams.

- A. Soil adaptation
- B. Water pollution
- C. Climate change
- D. Human dependence

10. Mesa Verde National Park features 'cliff dwellings' built into rock alcoves. Why did the inhabitants choose this specific environmental interaction?

- A. To adapt to the need for natural cooling and protection
- B. To modify the cliffs into a giant shopping mall
- C. Because they did not depend on any natural resources
- D. To increase the amount of rainfall in the canyon