

# Tierra Nueva: Opportunities for Economic Development

How do the physical and human characteristics of a place  
influence its economic opportunities?

**Level:** 6th - 7th Grade  
**Course:** World geography, preferably covering Latin America  
**Author:** Trip Merklein, St. Vrain Valley Schools

## Geography Standards being assessed:

Students know . . .

- 1.1 how to use maps and other geographic tools to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective.
- 1.3 how to analyze the dynamic spatial organization of people, places, and environments;
  - solve locational questions requiring the integration of information from two or more sources.
- 4.3 patterns and networks of economic interdependence;
  - identify factors that affect the location and distribution of economic activities.
- 5.2 how physical systems affect human systems;
  - explain how the characteristics of different physical environments provide opportunities for or place constraints on human activities.

## Overview:

Working in pairs, students are given two proposals for improving the standard of living in four different settlement locations. Acting as consultants to the government of Tierra Nueva, a hypothetical country in Latin America, the students first collect data for each location. The students compile the data in a graphic organizer, and then use the collected data to select two of the four settlements that best match a proposal for improving the standard of living at that location. Finally, students identify reasonable economic activities that might further improve the settlements' standard of living in each selected location.

## Materials:

Each student will need:

- Handout #1: Student Background Information
- Handout #2: Graphic Organizer

- Handout #3: Data Packet (a set of "Tierra Nueva" maps, climographs for four locations, and an Elevation and Climate Zones diagram)
- Handout #4: Settlement Improvement Proposals 1 and 2
- Handout #5: Review Sheet (two pages)
- Handout #6: Economic Activities Proposals (two pages)

**Time:** 3 - 50 minute class periods

**Prior Learning:**

- Familiarity with Latin American elevation climate zones (tierra caliente, tierra templada, and tierra fria). You may wish to review the diagram included with this assessment.
- The concepts of subsistence farming and herding and commercial farming and ranching.
- Interpreting a climograph.
- Map skills, reading political and physical maps, especially determining elevation and using scale. Also using distribution maps such as climate, elevation, and land use.
- Chart completion (graphic organizer) and interpretation.
- Some general background information about climatic effects on the cultural characteristics of shelter, food, clothing, and ways of making a living, especially in tropical Latin America.

**Definitions:** Students should be familiar with these terms and concepts.

*tierra caliente* - means "hot lands" in Spanish. The lower elevations in the tropics that are typically warm and humid year round.

*tierra templada* - "temperate lands." The middle elevations in the tropics that are neither too hot nor too cold year round.

*tierra fria* - "cold lands." The higher elevations in the tropics where temperatures are cool to cold year round, yet not so high or cold to be permanently covered in snow. In fact, it may be very dry.

*standard of living* - a measure of the quality of life of a person, group, or country

*economic activities* - ways of making a living; job opportunities.

*commercial farming and ranching* - farms and ranches that operate on a large scale, usually specializing in a single crop or animal, grown for sale to earn money.

*subsistence farming and herding* - small scale farming or herding with the purpose of providing enough to support a family. It is usually associated with poverty.

*market* - a place, or opportunity, for people to buy and sell

## **Teacher Administration Instructions:**

- It is strongly recommended that the teacher take this assessment before administering it to students. This will allow the teacher to become familiar with the tasks and anticipate questions that students may have.
- Overheads of pages the students receive may be helpful to focus their attention as the tasks are reviewed.
- It may be helpful for students to have something to read or work on quietly if they complete each task before the end of the class period.
- Before the students begin each task, share the applicable part of the scoring guide with them, perhaps on an overhead.

### **Day 1:**

1. Distribute **Handout #1: Student Background Information** to each student. Have students follow along as you read this information aloud.
2. To assist students in analyzing the maps and other data, each will fill out **Handout #2: Graphic Organizer**. Distribute **Handout #3: Data Packet** (a set of the maps, climographs, and the climate elevation diagram).
3. Go over each map, the climographs, and the diagram, one at a time, so that students are aware of the different data in the packet. Mention that much of the information read aloud in class is presented graphically in this data. Students must determine which data sources (maps, climographs, and/or the diagram) to use to complete the Graphic Organizer. Point out that the circled letters A, B, C, and D on each map are the possible locations for the two proposed settlements.
4. Inform the students that the best way to complete the Graphic Organizer is to complete one characteristic (horizontal row) for all four locations (columns) at a time. This way they will not be shuffling through the data as much.
5. Allow students time to complete the Graphic Organizer. Circulate to make sure students understand the task.
6. Collect all Data Packets and Graphic Organizers at the end of the period.

### **Day 2:**

1. Distribute **Handout #4: Settlement Improvement Proposals 1 and 2**. Read these aloud as the students follow along.
2. Redistribute Data Packets and Graphic Organizers to students.
3. Distribute **Handout #5: Review Sheet - Best Locations For Settlement Improvements**. This should be completed by the end of class.
4. Read directions aloud for this sheet and allow students time to complete the task. Circulate to make sure students understand the task.  
NOTE: Allow students who did not complete the Graphic Organizers on the first day to finish it before beginning the settlement activity.
5. Collect all handouts at the end of the period.

**Day 3:**

1. **Redistribute Data Packets and Graphic Organizers to students.**
2. **Debrief Handout #5: Review Sheet of the previous day using the Exemplary Responses (Best Locations for Settlements). This is so that all students can be at the same point before progressing to Handout #6.**
3. **Distribute Handout #6: Economic Activities Proposals. This should be completed by the end of class.**
4. **Read directions aloud and allow students time to complete the task. Circulate to make sure students understand the task.**
5. **Collect all handouts from students.**
6. **Debrief students using the Exemplary Responses (Economic Activities Proposals).**

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## Handout #1: Student Background Information

You have been selected as a consultant for the government of “Tierra Nueva,” a *hypothetical* country in the Latin American tropics. Working with a partner, you will first collect data about four different settlements from maps, charts, and graphs about the country.

Next, using the data you’ve collected, you must select two of the four settlements that best match a proposal for improving the standard of living at that location. In doing this, you must also consider in which settlement each proposal will have the best chance for success. The standard of living of the area will be raised by building improved housing, a school, and improving the ways the people make a living.

Finally, you will identify reasonable economic activities that might further improve the settlement in each location. Acting as a government consultant, you must complete the following tasks:

- Analyze the maps and other data in the Data Packet and complete the Graphic Organizer
- Review the two Settlement Improvement Proposals and determine which two of the four settlements have the best chance of success. Provide reasons for your choice of each settlement.
- Once again, analyze the data. Choose the kinds of economic activities that may be reasonable for each settlement. Then explain how the physical and human characteristics of each location make your choices practical.

### Background Information On Tierra Nueva

Tierra Nueva is an impoverished country with a few very wealthy landowners of large estates and a large class of poor subsistence farmers. Many farmers find seasonal work on the commercial farming and ranching estates to provide some cash income. Others have left farming to find low wage factory jobs in the cities. People of pure European ancestry, descendants of the original colonizers, are the smallest and wealthiest ethnic group. Native peoples, the poorest group, are generally located in the highlands, while people of mixed ancestry, the largest ethnic group, are primarily in the lowlands.

The country’s landscape is characterized by a western coastline, tropical forests, fertile soil enriched by volcanic ash, and high mountains that run north-south through the interior of the country. The capital, a coastal port city, is the major population center. There are smaller cities and towns in the country with most on the western side of the mountains. The mountains isolate the eastern region of the country.

The transportation network in Tierra Nueva is dominated by railroads. Most roads are unpaved and often impassable due to heavy rains. Deforestation in parts of the country has created areas with firewood shortages. Firewood is a major source of fuel. Tropical diseases threaten some areas of the country. Anti-government rebels, angry with the lack of progress in improving the standard of living, are active in some parts of the country.

The government, controlled by the wealthy, wants to help improve the standard of living in the poorer settlements of Tierra Nueva. As a government consultant you must determine in which settlements the help has the best chance for success.

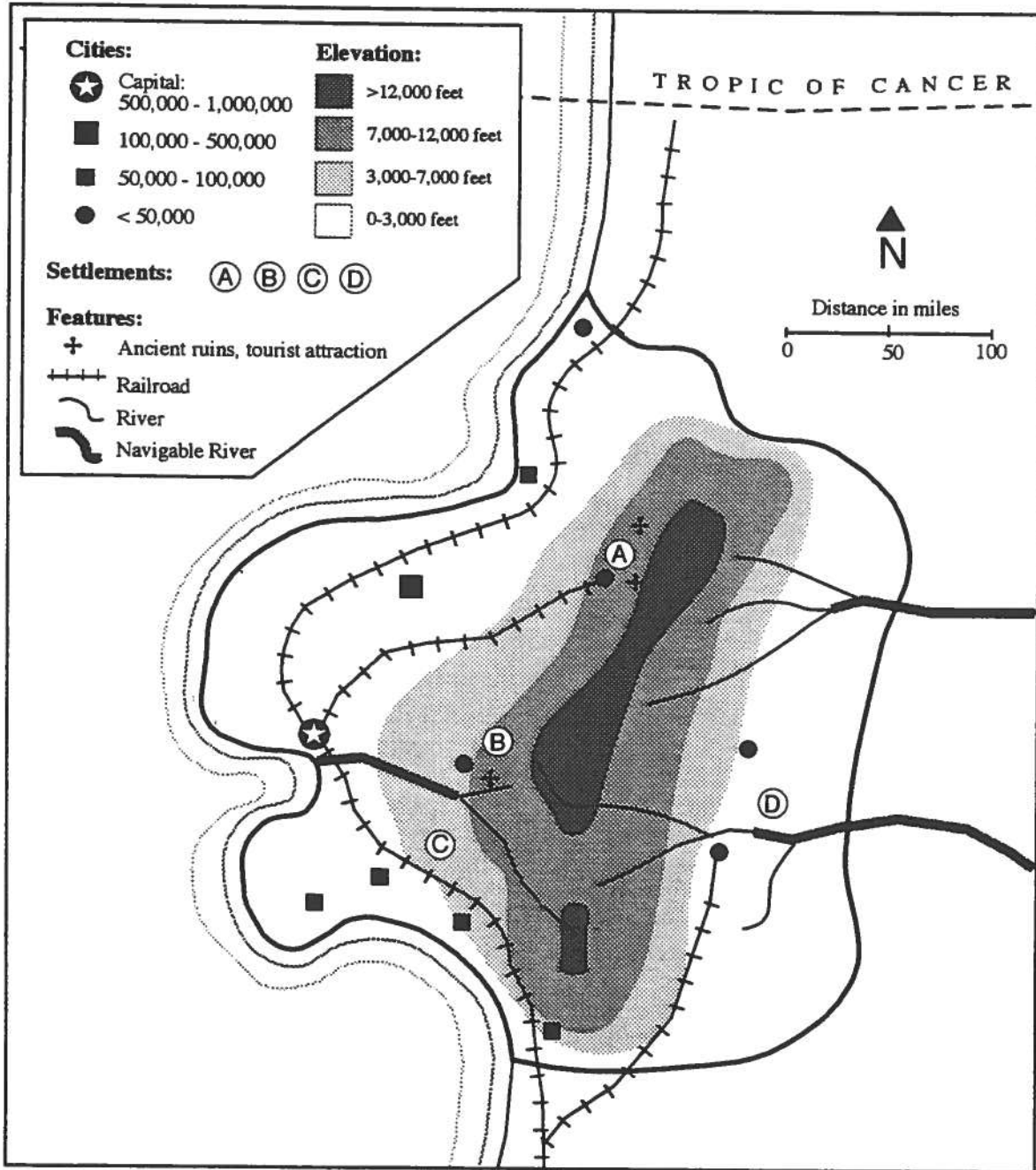
## Handout #2: Graphic Organizer

**DIRECTIONS:** Carefully study each of the maps, climographs, and the Elevation Climate Zones diagram. Complete the following graphic organizer using information you have studied. A few have been done for you as examples.

<b>CHARACTERISTIC</b>	<b>SETTLEMENT A</b>	<b>SETTLEMENT B</b>	<b>SETTLEMENT C</b>	<b>SETTLEMENT D</b>
Average annual temperature				approximately 90 degrees F
Total annual precipitation				approximately 75 inches
Approximate elevation		about 9500 feet		
Elevation Climate Zone	TIERRA FRIA			
Major ethnic group			mixed	
Crops		wheat, potatoes, corn		
Animals			cattle, pigs	
Natural vegetation	grass, tree ferns, bamboo			
Major land use				commercial farming and ranching
Available transportation		railroad is more than 50 miles away		
Distance to closest city	less than 25 miles			
Nearby hazards	none		flooding	
Tourism opportunities		close to ancient ruins		

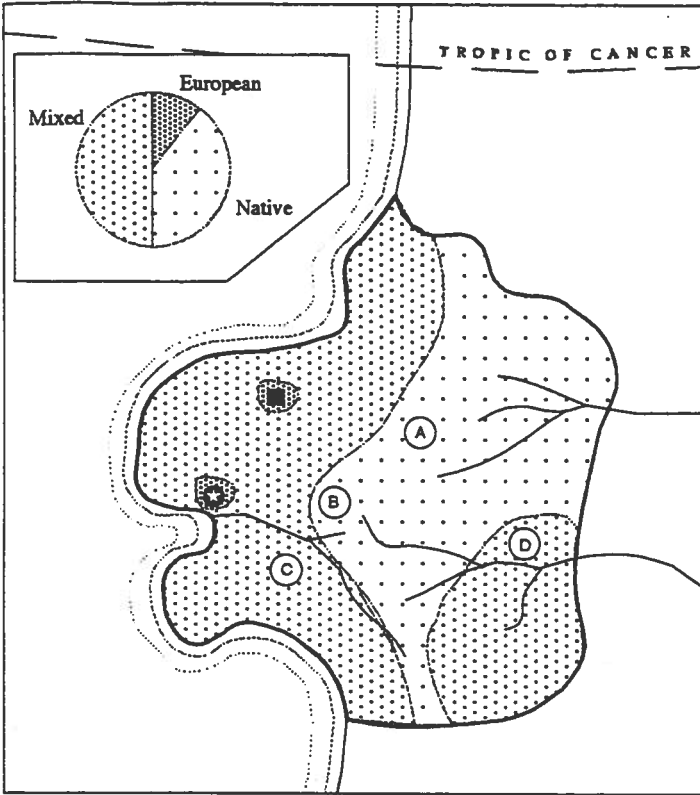
## Handout #3: Data Packet

# TIERRA NUEVA: Political and Elevation

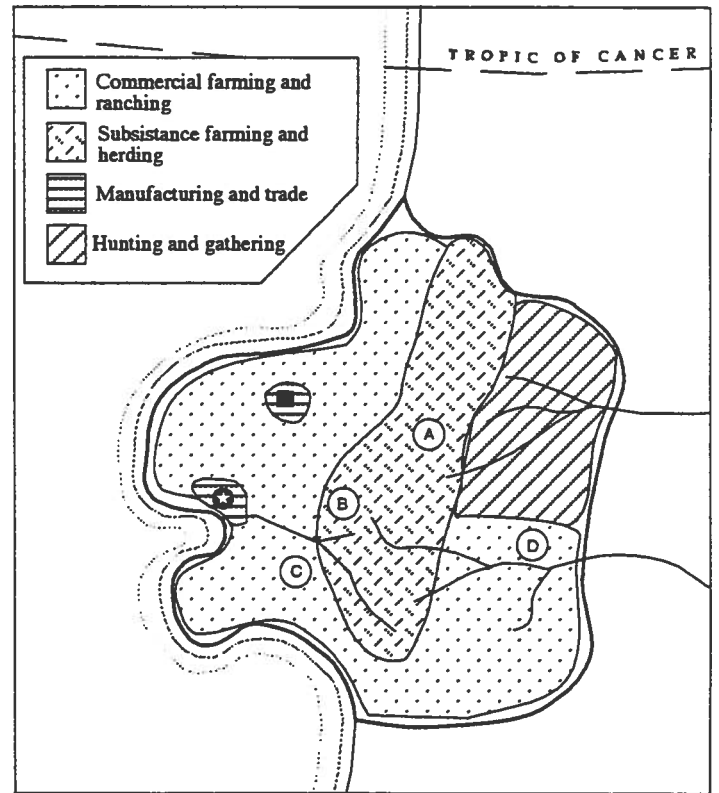




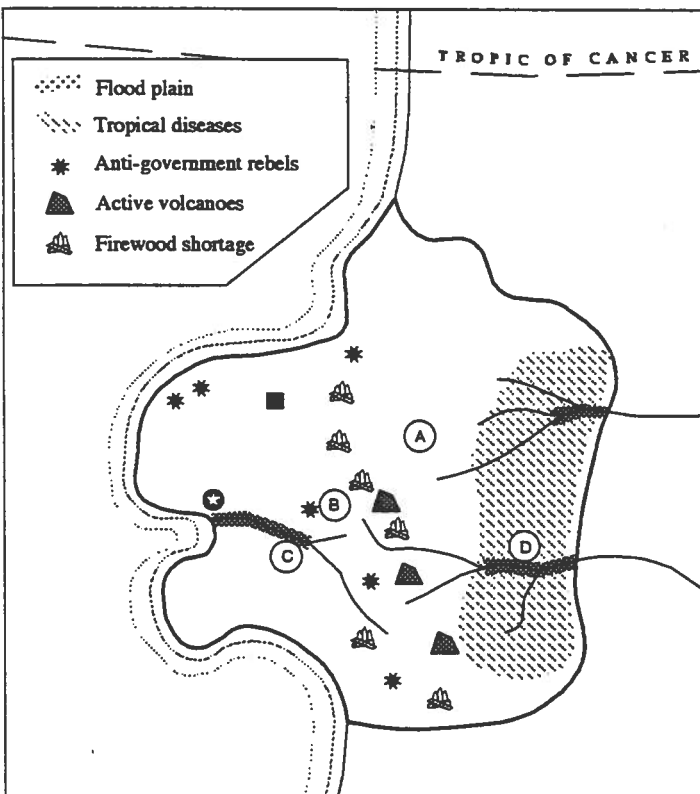
### Tierra Nueva: Ethnic Groups



### Tierra Nueva: Land Use

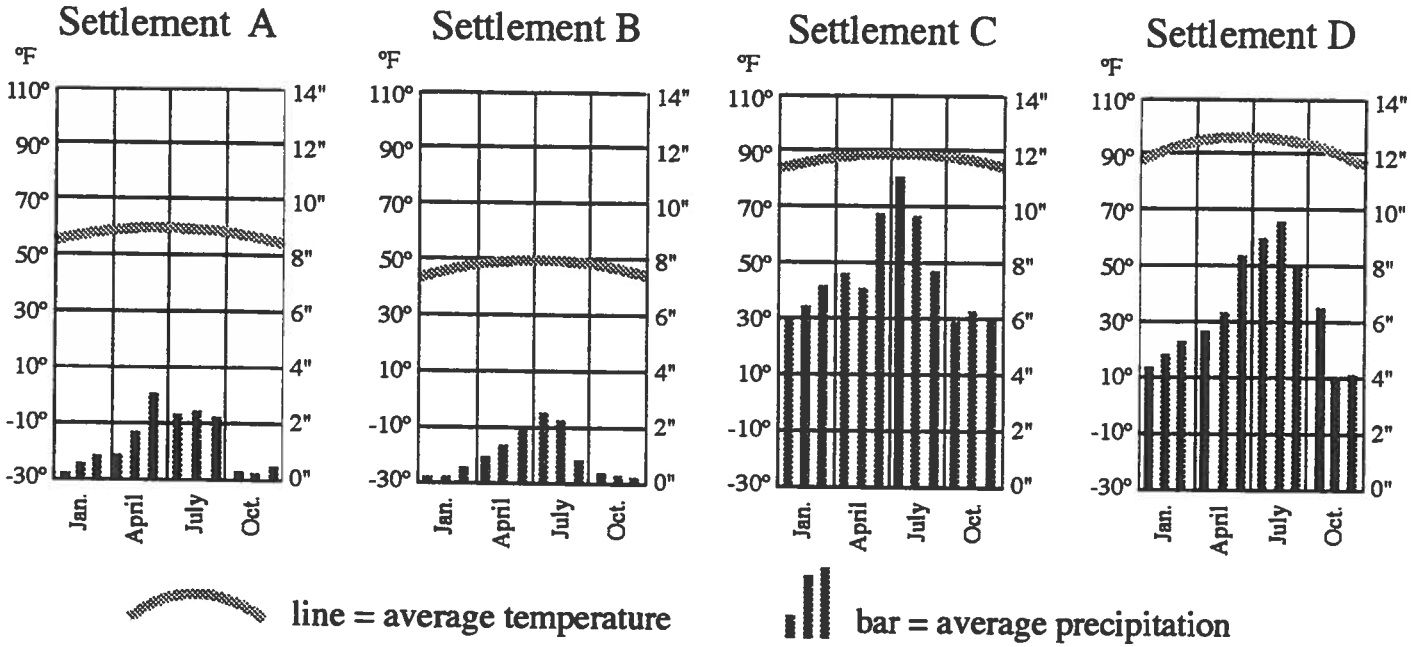


### Tierra Nueva: Hazards

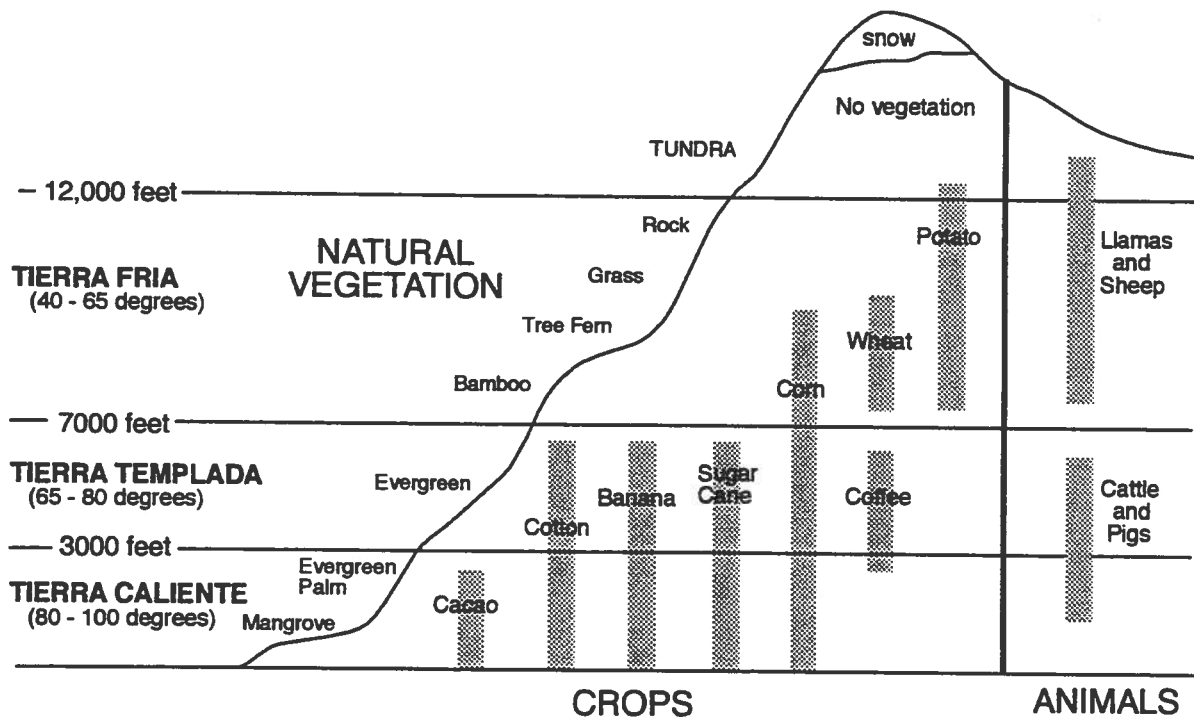


# CLIMOGRAPHS

## Average Monthly Precipitation and Temperature



## ELEVATION AND CLIMATE ZONES IN LATIN AMERICA



## Handout #4: Settlement Improvement Proposals

### Settlement Improvement Proposal #1

For the selected settlement, the government wants to improve the lives of the Native ethnic group. Its purpose is to preserve their traditional way of life as much as possible.

The government will provide money to buy land and construct improved housing and a school for the people of this settlement. These buildings will be designed to be suitable for the climate and built from materials available locally:

- Thatch roofs made of grasses.
- Supporting frames made from bamboo trees.
- Thick rock walls.

A system for recycling scarce water will be installed.

### Settlement Improvement Proposal #2

For the selected settlement, the government wants to improve the lives of the Mixed ethnic group who typically find seasonal work on the wealthy estates.

The government will provide money to buy land and construct improved housing and a school for the people of this settlement. These buildings will be designed to be suitable for the climate and built from materials available locally:

- Walls made from evergreen logs, spaced to allow breezes to pass through.
- Roofs made of palm leaves.
- Structures will be raised on stilts.

**Handout #5:  
Review Sheet - Best Locations for Settlement Improvements**

**Where people choose to live and the culture they develop are shaped by their natural and man-made surroundings. Carefully read Proposals 1 and 2 and decide which of the four settlements best fits each proposal. In doing this, you must also consider in which settlement each proposal will have the best chance for success. Then give reasons for your choices. Analyze the maps, other data, and your Graphic Organizer to help you select the best location for each proposal. Choose from Settlements A,B,C, or D. These sites are located on all maps.**

**Factors to consider:**

- buildings are adapted for the climate and made of available resources
- distance to markets
- availability of transportation
- ethnic groups to be helped
- natural and man-made hazards

**Use the following page for your response.**

**SETTLEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL #1 is best suited for  
Settlement : \_\_\_\_\_ (choose Settlement A, B, C, or D.)**

List the reasons you chose this settlement for proposal #1. Read the above "factors to consider" and include them in your answer.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Briefly indicate why other locations were rejected.

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**SETTLEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL #2 is best suited for  
Settlement : \_\_\_\_\_ (choose Settlement A, B, C, or D.)**

List the reasons you chose this settlement for proposal #1. Read the above "factors to consider" and include them in your answer.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Briefly indicate why other locations were rejected.

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Handout #6:  
Economic Activities Proposals**

**The natural and man-made characteristics of a place provide opportunities for, and limits upon, possible economic activities. Two settlements in Tierra Nueva have been selected for government assistance. As a government consultant, you must now choose the kinds of economic activities that are reasonable for each settlement. In other words, what kinds of work will the people do in order to make a living? In addition, you must explain why your choices will likely be successful.**

*\*\* Your explanation should include how physical and human characteristics (things like: climate, land use, available transportation and markets) make the economic activities practical for the location.*

**Choices of economic activities for both settlements may come from the following:**

- (1) A road will be built from the ancient ruins to the nearby city.**
- (2) Bananas will be grown for export to other countries.**
- (3) Corn and potatoes will be grown on terraced fields of the steep mountainsides to provide food for the settlers.**
- (4) Crafts will be woven from wool and sold to tourists.**
- (5) Cattle will be raised to export hides and beef.**

**Use the following page for your response.**

**Settlement A is the best match for Proposal #1**

**What three types of economic activities are best suited for this settlement?**

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) [circle your choices]

**Provide at least two reasons why these economic activities are practical for Settlement A.**

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**Explain why the other choices were rejected.**

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**Settlement C is the best match for Proposal #2**

**What 2 types of economic activities are best suited for this settlement?**

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) [circle your choices]

**Provide at least two reasons why these economic activities are practical for Settlement C.**

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**Explain why the other choices were rejected.**

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# Exemplary Responses

## REVIEW SHEET: Best Locations for Settlement Improvements

### Proposal #1

Settlement "A" is the best choice for the following reasons:

- It is close to a railroad that connects to major cities and the capital, as shown by the Political Map.
- It is close to a river. This is especially important because the Climograph indicates that this region does not get a lot of precipitation.
- The proposal is for the Native population, and Settlement A is located in a Native area, as indicated by the Predominant Ethnic Groups Map.
- The rock walls of the buildings will provide insulation for the colder climate, found at this site's high elevation in *tierra fria*. This information is found in the Climograph and the Elevation Zones Diagram.
- The buildings are constructed from available natural resources of rocks, grasses, and bamboo, as indicated by the Elevation Zones Diagram.
- This site is located far away from hazards such as rebels, volcanoes, scarce firewood, and tropical diseases, as indicated by the Hazards Map.

### Rejection of Other Sites:

- Settlement B is similar to Settlement A for all of the above reasons, *except* for the first and last reasons listed. Location B suffers several drawbacks: it is not near a railroad, and it is near hazards such as rebels, volcanoes, and scarce firewood.
- Settlements C & D are unacceptable because the buildings in Proposal #1 are not adapted for the low elevation, hot *tierra caliente* climates of these sites. The predominant ethnic group at these sites is not Native.

### Proposal #2

Settlement "C" is the best choice for the following reasons:

- It is close to a railroad that connects to major cities and the capital, as shown by the Political Map.
- It is located on a navigable river that connects it to the capital, as shown by the Political Map.
- It is nearby cities (as shown on several of the maps) that can provide laborers.
- This site is located far away from hazards such as rebels, volcanoes, scarce firewood, and tropical diseases, as indicated by the Hazards Map.
- With spaced walls and palm leaf roofs, the buildings are adapted for a hot and rainy climate, found at this site's low elevation in *tierra caliente*. This information is found in the Climograph and the Elevation Zones Diagram.
- The buildings are constructed from available natural resources of evergreen trees and palm leaves, as indicated by the Elevation Zones Diagram.
- The buildings, raised on stilts, are adapted for flooding. The Hazards Map shows that this site is in a flood plain.

### Rejection of Other Sites:

- Settlement D is similar to Location C for the last three reasons listed above. However, Site D suffers several flaws: it is isolated on the eastern side of the mountains, far from railroads and cities, and it is in an area of tropical diseases.
- Settlements A & B are unacceptable because the buildings in Proposal #2 are not adapted for the high elevation, cold *tierra fria* climates of these sites.



# Exemplary Responses (continued)

## ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES PROPOSALS

### Proposal #1 Settlement A: Optimal Economic Activities are (1), (3), (4)

- This settlement is located near a city and ancient ruins. Building a road from the city, connected by rail to the capital, to the ruins, will make it easier for more tourists to visit the ruins.
- Corn and potatoes can be grown on subsistence farms to provide food for the inhabitants. These crops grow well at this high elevation according to the Elevation Zones Diagram. The Land Use/Economic Activities Map shows that subsistence farming is important in this area.
- Sheep and llamas, adapted to the high elevation, can be herded to provide the wool from which the crafts will be made. This is a good way to make a living in this high elevation settlement as indicated by the Land Use/Economic Activities Map and the Elevation Zones Diagram. Tourists who visit the nearby ruins may provide a market for the crafts.
- The other choices are not feasible for this settlement because those types of activities are not suitable for the high elevation. It is too cold for bananas to grow, and cattle do not thrive at that high elevation.

### Proposal #2 Settlement C: Optimal Economic Activities are (2), (5)

- Bananas can be grown on commercial farms and sold for money. These crops grow well at this hot, wet, low elevation according to the Elevation Zones Diagram. The Land Use/Economic Activities Map shows that commercial farming is important in this area.
- Cattle can be raised on commercial farms. This is a practical way to earn a living in this low elevation settlement as indicated by the Land Use/Economic Activities Map and the Elevation Zones Diagram.
- The settlement is located near a railroad and a navigable river, allowing the bananas and cattle to be easily shipped to the port city for export to other countries.
- The other choices are not feasible for this settlement because those types of activities are not suitable for the climate of the hot, wet, low elevation.

# Graphic Organizer KEY

CHARACTERISTIC	SETTLEMENT A	SETTLEMENT B	SETTLEMENT C	SETTLEMENT D
Average annual temperature	55 degrees F (+ or -5 deg.)	45 degrees F (+ or -5 deg.)	85 degrees F (+ or -5 deg.)	90 degrees F approximately
Total annual precipitation	14 inches (+ or - 2 inches)	10 inches (+ or - 2 inches)	90 inches (+ or - 10 inches)	75 inches approximately
Approximate elevation	10,000 feet (+ or - 1000 ft.)	about 9500 feet	about 2500 feet (no more than 3000)	2000 feet (no more than 3000)
Elevation Climate Zone	<b>TIERRA FRIA</b>	Tierra Fria	Tierra Caliente	Tierra Caliente
Major ethnic group	Native	Native	mixed	mixed
Crops	wheat, potatoes, corn	<b>wheat, potatoes, corn</b>	cacao, corn, cotton, bananas, sugar cane	cacao, corn, cotton, bananas, sugar cane
Animals	llamas, sheep	llamas, sheep	<b>cattle, pigs</b>	cattle, pigs
Natural vegetation	<b>grass, tree ferns, bamboo</b>	grass, tree ferns, bamboo	evergreen, palm mangrove	palm, mangrove, evergreen
Major land use	subsistence farming and herding	subsistence farming and herding	commercial farming and ranching	<b>commercial farming and ranching</b>
Available transportation	railroad is less than 25 miles away	<b>railroad is more than 50 miles away</b>	very close to railroad and navigable river	on navigable river, RR is over 50 miles away, across 2 unbridged rivers
Distance to closest city	<b>less than 25 miles</b>	about 25 miles	less than 25 miles	about 25 miles
Nearby hazards	<b>none</b>	firewood shortage, rebel activity, active volcanoes	<b>flooding</b>	flooding, tropical diseases
Tourism opportunities	close to ancient ruins	<b>close to ancient ruins</b>	none apparent (maybe river tours)	none apparent (maybe river tours)

## Scoring Guide for Tierra Nueva

	Advanced 4	Proficient 3	Partly Proficient 2	Not Yet Proficient 1
1.1 Using Geographic Tools	Graphic Organizer is completed with few to no errors (36 - 40 of the characteristics are correct) demonstrating advanced skill in acquiring, reporting, and processing information using geographic tools	Most of the Graphic Organizer is completed without errors (at least 30 characteristics are correct) demonstrating proficient skill in acquiring, reporting, and processing information using geographic tools	Incomplete and/or many errors (20 - 29 correct) on the Graphic Organizer, demonstrating some skill in acquiring, reporting, and processing information using geographic tools	Fewer than 20 characteristics are correct, demonstrating a lack of skill in using geographic tools
1.3 Solving Locational Questions	Both optimal settlements are identified.* For each settlement, at least 3 highly developed reasons are included that reflect advanced geographic thinking about the effect of physical and human factors on settlements	At least one optimal settlement is identified.** For each settlement, at least 2 well developed reasons are included that reflect geographic thinking about the effect of physical and human factors on settlements	Neither optimal settlement is identified, or if one or both are identified, the reasons for their choices do not reflect geographic thinking.	Neither optimal settlement is identified, or if one or both are, no effort is made to provide reasons for the choices.
4.3, 5.2 Insight into Economic Interdependence	All optimal economic activities are identified. For each settlement, at least 3 highly developed reasons are included that reflect advanced geographic thinking about the effect of physical and human factors on economic activities.	At least 2 optimal economic activities are correctly identified for each settlement, and at least one well-developed reason about how physical and human factors affect practical economic activities is given for each settlement.	At least one optimal economic activity is identified for each settlement, but supporting reasons do not reflect the effect of physical and human factors on economic activities.	One or fewer optimal economic activities are identified for both settlements, and supporting reasons are not given or do not reflect the effect of physical and human factors on economic activities.

DO NOT SHOW INFORMATION BELOW THIS LINE WHEN SHOWING STUDENTS THE RUBRIC BEFORE THEY BEGIN EACH TASK

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\* (#1 = A, #2 = C)

\*\* (To be proficient, the incorrect choice for #1 must be B; for #2 it must be D)

## SCORE = 1

REASONS FOR SCORE: Only one optimal settlement is correctly identified. ("D" is not an acceptable choice for Proposal #1.) The student simply restates the prompts (i.e. FACTORS TO CONSIDER). No effort is made to give reasons for choices.

# REVIEW SHEET: Best Locations for Settlement Improvements

CONSULTANTS NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ #2

## TASK:

Where people choose to live and the culture they develop are shaped by their natural and man-made surroundings. Carefully read Proposals #'s 1 & 2, decide which of the four settlements' locations best fits each proposal, and give reasons for your choices. Analyze the maps, other data, and your GRAPHIC ORGANIZER to help you select the best location for each proposal. (Choose from Settlements A, B, C, or D. These sites are located on all maps.)

## FACTORS TO CONSIDER:

- buildings are adapted for the climate and made of available resources
- availability of transportation
- distance to markets *Cities*
- ethnic groups to be helped
- natural and man-made hazards

## SETTLEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL #1

BEST SETTLEMENT MATCH D (Settlement A, B, C, or D.)

REASONS that you choose this settlement for proposal #1.  
SEE ABOVE FOR FACTORS TO CONSIDER.

1. ethnic groups to be helped.
2. natural and man made Hazards.
3. availability of transportation

Briefly indicate why other locations were rejected.

4. Beaus they were in beter shape.

## SETTLEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL #2

BEST SETTLEMENT MATCH C (Settlement A, B, C, or D.)

REASONS that you choose this settlement for proposal #2.  
SEE ABOVE FOR FACTORS TO CONSIDER.

1. Distance to cities
2. ethnic groups to be helped
3. natural and man made hazards

Briefly indicate why other locations were rejected.

4. Beaus they were in beter shape

## SCORE = 2

REASONS FOR SCORE: Correct connections are made, but reasons are not well developed. Each optimal settlement is matched to its proposal (#1=A, #2=C). Student makes the correct connection between each proposal and the ethnic group it will help, and for settlement #2 the student makes a connection between the hot climate and the need for the building style to allow for breezes. However, the remaining reasons are insufficient. The student correctly states for each of his choices that the necessary "supplies" (i.e. resources) are or are not available, but does not provide any explanation for them.

# REVIEW SHEET: Best Locations for Settlement Improvements

CONSULTANTS NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

## TASK:

Where people choose to live and the culture they develop are shaped by their natural and man-made surroundings. Carefully read Proposals #'s 1 & 2, decide which of the four settlements' locations best fits each proposal, and give reasons for your choices. Analyze the maps, other data, and your GRAPHIC ORGANIZER to help you select the best location for each proposal. (Choose from Settlements A, B, C, or D. These sites are located on all maps.)

## FACTORS TO CONSIDER:

- buildings are adapted for the climate and made of available resources
- availability of transportation
- distance to markets
- ethnic groups to be helped
- natural and man-made hazards

## SETTLEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL #1

BEST SETTLEMENT MATCH A (Settlement A, B, C, or D.)

REASONS that you choose this settlement for proposal #1.  
SEE ABOVE FOR FACTORS TO CONSIDER.

1. It is <sup>for</sup> a native group.
2. They have all the supplies for the buildings.
3. They live up high so the water recycling program fits well.

Briefly indicate why other locations were rejected.

4. Because they did not have the supplies needed and they weren't native groups.

## SETTLEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL #2

BEST SETTLEMENT MATCH C (Settlement A, B, C, or D.)

REASONS that you choose this settlement for proposal #2.  
SEE ABOVE FOR FACTORS TO CONSIDER.

1. Because they are a mixed population of people.
2. They have all the supplies needed.
3. They live in a hot climate so they need the legs to be spaced for breezes.

Briefly indicate why other locations were rejected.

4. Because they did not have the supplies needed.

## SCORE = 3

REASONS FOR SCORE: Each optimal settlement is matched to its proposal (#1=A, #2=C). At least 2 well developed reasons are given for each choice. Reasons student gives are well developed, but not all are highly developed. For example, the student indicates for each proposal that the buildings "fit" the climate, but he does not indicate *how* they are fit for the climate.



# REVIEW SHEET: Best Locations for Settlement Improvements

CONSULTANTS NAMES [REDACTED]

## TASK:

Where people choose to live and the culture they develop are shaped by their natural and man-made surroundings. Carefully read Proposals #'s 1 & 2, decide which of the four settlements' locations best fits each proposal, and give reasons for your choices. Analyze the maps, other data, and your GRAPHIC ORGANIZER to help you select the best location for each proposal. (Choose from Settlements A, B, C, or D. These sites are located on all maps.)

## FACTORS TO CONSIDER:

- buildings are adapted for the climate and made of available resources
- availability of transportation
- distance to markets
- ethnic groups to be helped
- natural and man-made hazards

## SETTLEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL #1

BEST SETTLEMENT MATCH A (Settlement A, B, C, or D.)

REASONS that you choose this settlement for proposal #1.  
SEE ABOVE FOR FACTORS TO CONSIDER.

1. Has materials for buildings and the buildings are fit for the climate because its it the low temperature
2. Close to ancient ruins for tourism and a fairroad close by also for transportation.
3. It is to help the natives who live their

Briefly indicate why other locations were rejected.

4. To many hazards and to far from transportation

## SETTLEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL #2

BEST SETTLEMENT MATCH C (Settlement A, B, C, or D.)

REASONS that you choose this settlement for proposal #2.  
SEE ABOVE FOR FACTORS TO CONSIDER.

1. Materials there for building the buildings. They are also fit for the climate because the temperature is hot all year.
2. It is a mixed group of people.
3. It is only in the flooding area which means they need to be raised on stilts.

Briefly indicate why other locations were rejected.

4. Not as close to transportation and cities and a lot of hazards.

## **SCORE = 1**

**REASONS FOR SCORE:** Only one optimal economic activity is identified for each settlement, but none of the explanations provide coherent supporting reasons for the student's choices of economic activities.

# ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES PROPOSALS

CONSULTANTS NAMES [REDACTED]

## TASK:

The natural and man-made characteristics of a place provide opportunities for, and limits upon, possible economic activities. Two settlements in Tierra Nueva have been selected to help. As a government consultant, you must now choose the kinds of economic activities that are reasonable for each settlement. In other words, what kinds of work will the settlers do in order to make a living? In addition, you must explain why your choices will likely be successful.

\* \* Your explanation should include how physical and human characteristics (things like: climate, land use, available transportation and markets) make the economic activities practical for the location.

## CHOICES OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES for BOTH SETTLEMENTS

Making a living in each settlement may come from the following:

- (1) A road will be built from the ruins to the nearby city.
- (2) Bananas will be grown for export to other countries.
- (3) Corn and potatoes will be grown on terraced fields of the steep mountainsides to provide food for the settlers.
- (4) Crafts will be woven from wool and sold to tourists.
- (5) Cattle will be raised to export hides and beef.

### Proposal #1 Best Match is Settlement A

What 3 types of economic activities will be best suited for this settlement? (See above CHOICES.)

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) [circle your choices]

Now, explain why your choices are practical for Location A. (Give at least 2 reasons.)

1. #1 because a road could help them find a place without getting lost.
2. #2 because they can make money for selling products

Explain why the other choices were rejected.

3. #4 so they can have clothes to wear at least warm ones

### Proposal #2 Best Match is Settlement C

What 2 types of economic activities will be best suited for this settlement? (See above CHOICES.)

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) [circle your choices]

Now, explain why your choices are practical for Location C. (Give at least 2 reasons.)

1. #5 - because they sell it to raise money
2. #3 - they can also raise money for it

Explain why the other choices were rejected.

3. #2 because they can sell them to raise money to buy goods

## **SCORE = 2**

**REASONS FOR SCORE:** All optimal economic activities are correctly identified for each settlement, **HOWEVER** the supporting reasons do not reflect much thinking about how the physical or human geography of either settlement affect the student's chosen economic activities. "They are the ones that best fit the area," and "They both can be done at that elevation" are accurate statements, but they do not make clear connections to the settlements or the economic activities.

# ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES PROPOSALS

CONSULTANTS NAMES [REDACTED]

## TASK:

The natural and man-made characteristics of a place provide opportunities for, and limits upon, possible economic activities. Two settlements in Tierra Nueva have been selected to help. As a government consultant, you must now choose the kinds of economic activities that are reasonable for each settlement. In other words, what kinds of work will the settlers do in order to make a living? In addition, you must explain why your choices will likely be successful.

\*\* Your explanation should include how physical and human characteristics (things like: climate, land use, available transportation and markets) make the economic activities practical for the location.

## CHOICES OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES for BOTH SETTLEMENTS

Making a living in each settlement may come from the following:

- (1) A road will be built from the ruins to the nearby city.
- (2) Bananas will be grown for export to other countries.
- (3) Corn and potatoes will be grown on terraced fields of the steep mountainsides to provide food for the settlers.
- (4) Crafts will be woven from wool and sold to tourists.
- (5) Cattle will be raised to export hides and beef.

### Proposal #1 Best Match is Settlement A

What 3 types of economic activities will be best suited for this settlement? (See above CHOICES.)

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) [circle your choices]

Now, explain why your choices are practical for Location A. (Give at least 2 reasons.)

1. Because Bananas and cattle can't be grown at that climate
2. They are the ones that best fit the area, to me.

Explain why the other choices were rejected.

3. Because they can't be done at that elevation

### Proposal #2 Best Match is Settlement C

What 2 types of economic activities will be best suited for this settlement? (See above CHOICES.)

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) [circle your choices]

Now, explain why your choices are practical for Location C. (Give at least 2 reasons.)

1. Because they can't be done at that elevation
2. They can't be done at that elevation but they can be done at settlement C

Explain why the other choices were rejected.

3. Because they can't be done at that elevation

## **SCORE = 3**

REASONS FOR SCORE: Two of the three optimal economic activities for Settlement A, and both for Settlement B, are correctly identified. For each settlement, two well developed reasons are given for economic activity choices. However, the reasons given for rejecting other choices are inadequate. No effort is made to explain why there is no "fit" to climate, land use, etc.

# ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES PROPOSALS

CONSULTANTS NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

## TASK:

The natural and man-made characteristics of a place provide opportunities for, and limits upon, possible economic activities. Two settlements in Tierra Nueva have been selected to help. As a government consultant, you must now choose the kinds of economic activities that are reasonable for each settlement. In other words, what kinds of work will the settlers do in order to make a living? In addition, you must explain why your choices will likely be successful.

\*\* Your explanation should include how physical and human characteristics (things like: climate, land use, available transportation and markets) make the economic activities practical for the location.

## CHOICES OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES for BOTH SETTLEMENTS

Making a living in each settlement may come from the following:

- (1) A road will be built from the ruins to the nearby city.
- (2) Bananas will be grown for export to other countries.
- (3) Corn and potatoes will be grown on terraced fields of the steep mountainsides to provide food for the settlers.
- (4) Crafts will be woven from wool and sold to tourists.
- (5) Cattle will be raised to export hides and beef.

### Proposal #1 Best Match is Settlement A

What ~~3~~ types of economic activities will be best suited for this settlement? (See above CHOICES.)

3

(1) (2) **(3)** **(4)** (5) [circle your choices]

Now, explain why your choices are practical for Location A. (Give at least 2 reasons.)

1. It was because corn grows in Tierra Fria.
  2. Llamas and sheep produce wool so they probably will be woven wool and sheep wool is warm and it cold in tierra fria because its elevation.
- Explain why the other choices were rejected.
3. It did not fit in with the climate.

### Proposal #2 Best Match is Settlement C

What 2 types of economic activities will be best suited for this settlement? (See above CHOICES.)

(1) **(2)** (3) (4) **(5)** [circle your choices]

Now, explain why your choices are practical for Location C. (Give at least 2 reasons.)

1. In Tierra Caliente cattle and pig are raised and cat is kill for beef and there more.
2. Bananas are grown in Tierra Caliente though Tierra Templada

Explain why the other choices were rejected.

3. The rest really did not fit in with the climate or land use, transportation, or market.

## SCORE = 4

REASONS FOR SCORE: All optimal economic activities are correctly identified for each settlement, and at least 3 highly developed reasons are given for each. For Settlement A: the student indicates that the road will help attract more tourists to the ruins, that the wool will be provided by the llamas and sheep that live in the area, and that the tourists will probably want warm [wool] clothing. The student also indicates corn & potatoes grow well in the climate of the area. For reasons the other choices were rejected, the student indicates that bananas do not grow well in the area (although no explanation is given why not) and that cattle are not raised in the area. For Settlement B, similar well explained reasons are provided.



# ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES PROPOSALS

CONSULTANTS NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

## TASK:

The natural and man-made characteristics of a place provide opportunities for, and limits upon, possible economic activities. Two settlements in Tierra Nueva have been selected to help. As a government consultant, you must now choose the kinds of economic activities that are reasonable for each settlement. In other words, what kinds of work will the settlers do in order to make a living? In addition, you must explain why your choices will likely be successful.

\*\* Your explanation should include how physical and human characteristics (things like: climate, land use, available transportation and markets) make the economic activities practical for the location.

## CHOICES OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES for BOTH SETTLEMENTS

Making a living in each settlement may come from the following:

- A (1) A road will be built from the ruins to the nearby city.
- B (2) Bananas will be grown for export to other countries.
- A (3) Corn and potatoes will be grown on terraced fields of the steep mountainsides to provide food for the settlers.
- A (4) Crafts will be woven from wool and sold to tourists.
- B (5) Cattle will be raised to export hides and beef.

### Proposal #1 Best Match is Settlement A

What 2 types of economic activities will be best suited for this settlement? (See above CHOICES.)

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) [circle your choices]

Now, explain why your choices are practical for Location A. (Give at least 2 reasons.)

1. A road could be built + attract more tourists because the ruins are near settlement A which is close to a city. Corn + potatoes grow well in the climate. <sup>but there is not a market for them</sup> Bananas + sheep <sup>they have subsistence farming</sup> are found in the area. Therefore you could use their wool. The tourists would probably want warm clothing.
2. Bananas do not grow well in the area. Cattle are not raised in the area.

Explain why the other choices were rejected.

3. There are no bananas + sheep to make wool. Corn + potatoes do not grow well plus they would be grown for subsistence. There are no ruins for roads to be built to.

### Proposal #2 Best Match is Settlement C

What 2 types of economic activities will be best suited for this settlement? (See above CHOICES.)

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) [circle your choices]

Now, explain why your choices are practical for Location C. (Give at least 2 reasons.)

1. The climate is what bananas grow well in. There is also commercial farms willing to grow bananas in large quantities.
2. The cattle + pigs are raised in the area. There are commercial markets to sell them. There are markets for them.

Explain why the other choices were rejected.

3. There are no bananas + sheep to make wool. Corn + potatoes do not grow well plus they would be grown for subsistence. There are no ruins for roads to be built to.