

## Quick Comparison of Native Americans – With Answers

### Tip:

- If you are looking for a specific tribe, press Ctrl-F (for Find) and then enter the first letters of its name to search for it.
- The Traits column lists examples of their characteristics. In this class, you do not need to know all traits, but some.
- If you do not know some of the words in that column, click [here for Merriam-Webster Online](https://www.merriam-webster.com/) or copy this URL: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/>
- To help you, some words are identified as **(Key word)**. Make sure you know those words. If you cannot find a word or need help understanding it or any other word, please ask.

This covers:

- North America
- Middle America and South America

### North America

Native Americans consist of over 200 native groups. They speak **many** different languages.

| Region   | Time                                      | Major Examples                                     | Traits   |
|--|---|--|--|
| Northwest  | Pre-1500 and beyond                       | Pacific tribes ( <b>Key word</b> )                 | Food abundant<br>Concentrated population<br>Totems<br>Trade and ocean-going<br>Hierarchical ( <b>Key word</b> ) tribes ranging from slaves to free people to chiefs  |
| Midwest, Great Plains                                  | Pre-1500 and beyond                       | Cheyenne, Sioux, and other tribes                  | Nomadic, with a traditional term for this being hunter-gathers<br>Buffalo hunters<br>Religious rituals around hunting  |
| Mideast, Mississippi area                              | 950-1250                                  | Cahokia and other tribes                           | Mound builders<br>Trade network<br>Farming<br>Temples and government buildings<br>Human sacrifice  |
| Southwest  | Declining end of 13 <sup>th</sup> century | Anasazi in the early period and the Pueblo Indians | Corn<br>Not hierarchical ( <b>Key word</b> )<br>Not militaristic<br>Pueblos ( <b>Key word</b> for a way to build)<br>Pueblo Indians <u>After the Spanish come in 1598</u> , they will be invaded and resist and are punished brutally by having a foot removed. In the 1680s, the Indians rebel in Popé's Rebellion and keep the Spanish out for about 50 years. |
| Southeast, Atlantic coast called the Eastern Woodlands | Pre-1500 and beyond                       | Algonquians, Iroquois, and Muskogees               | Fishing<br>Hunting<br>Farming<br>Warfare – including to gain slaves<br>Canoes<br>Villages and some moved with seasons<br><br><b>3 major tribes</b> and also the 3 major languages in the region:<br>1. Algonquian – <b>patriarchal (Key word)</b><br><u>After the Europeans come</u> , will become allies of the French  |

|  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
|  |  |  | <p>2. Iroquoian - <b>matrilineal (Key word)</b> and in a confederation <b>(Key word both with them and the initial American government )</b><br/> <u>After the Europeans come</u>, will hold a balance of power with French and English by committing to neither, but later (toward the end of Unit 1), join with the British.</p> <p>3. Muskogean - <b>matrilineal</b></p> |
|--|--|--|---|

### Middle America and South America

| Region         | Time         | Name                           | Traits   |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Middle America | 300-900 AD   | Mayan Empire <b>(Key word)</b> | Pyramids<br>Numerals<br>Calendar<br>Astronomy<br>Cities<br>Centralized government <b>(Key word)</b> /empire <b>(Key word)</b>  |
| Middle America | 1300-1521 AD | Aztec Empire <b>(Key word)</b> | Human sacrifices<br>Militaristic<br>Have serfs (by conquering neighboring areas)<br>Cities/roads<br>Centralized government <b>(Key word)</b> /empire <b>(Key word)</b><br>When the Spanish come, trying to tighten control of their empire |
| South America  | 1000-1531 AD | Inca Empire <b>(Key word)</b>  | 6 Million people<br>Cities/roads<br>Irrigation/terrace farming<br>Centralized government <b>(Key word)</b> /empire <b>(Key word)</b><br>When the Spanish come, dealing with a civil war <b>(Key word)</b>                                  |

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