

# Chapter 5 | Louisiana's Native People

**Standard 2 – Key Events, Ideas and People:** Students analyze how the contributions of key events, ideas, and people influenced the development of modern Louisiana.

**GLE 8.2.1** Describe the contributions of explorers and early settlement groups to the development of Louisiana.

Use the three sources and your knowledge of social studies to answer the questions.

### Source 1: Information About Prehistoric Cultures

	Paleo Era	Meso Era	Early Neo Era	Late Neo Era
Meaning of the Prefix	Ancient	Middle	New	New
Occupation	Hunters	Hunters and gatherers	Hunters and gatherers	Hunters and farmers
Shelter	Animal skin coverings	Wood posts covered with branches or earthen structures	Semi-permanent dwellings and villages	Permanent dwellings (wattle and daub) and large villages
Food Source(s)	Large mammals (e.g., mastodons)	Smaller animals (e.g., deer, rabbits, raccoons, squirrels, and fish) and vegetation (e.g., acorns, nuts, berries, and persimmons)	Deer, birds, wild fruit, and wild grain (amaranth)	Wild game and crops (e.g., maize, beans, squash, and pumpkins).

**Source 2: A Buffalo Hunt**

*The buffalo is about the size of one of our largest oxen, but he appears rather bigger, on account of his long curled wool, which makes him appear to the eye much larger than he really is. This wool is very fine and very thick, and is of a large dark chestnut color ... This buffalo is the chief food of the natives ... the best piece is the bunch on the shoulders, the taste of which is extremely delicate. They hunt this animal in the winter... In order to get near enough to fire upon him, they go against the wind, and they take aim at the hollow of the shoulder, that they may bring him to the ground at once, for if he is only slightly wounded, he runs against his enemy. The natives when hunting seldom choose to kill any but the cows.*

— Source: Antoine Simon Le Page du Pratz. *The History of Louisiana*. New Orleans, LA: Pelican Press, Inc.



**Source 3: George Catlin's Letter**

This eyewitness account is George Catlin's description of a toil match between Choctaw tribes, which he attended.

*It is no uncommon occurrence for six or eight hundred or a thousand of these young men to engage in a game of ball, with fi ve or six times that number of spectators, of men, women, and children, surrounding the ground, and looking on.*

*Each party had their goal made with two upright posts, about 25 feet high and six feet apart, set fi rm in the ground, with a pole across at the top. These goals were about forty or fi fty rods [220 to 275 yards] apart; and ... half way between, was another small stake, driven down, where the ball was to be thrown up at the fi ring of a gun, to be struggled for by the players. The sticks with which this tribe play, are bent into an oblong hoop at the end, with a sort of slight web of small thongs tied across, to prevent the ball from passing through. The players hold one of these in each hand, and by leaping into the air, they catch the ball between the two nettings and throw it, without being allowed to strike it, or catch it in their hands.*

*In the morning ... the game commenced, by the judges throwing up the ball ... when an instant struggle ensued between the players, who were some six or seven hundred in numbers, and were mutually endeavoring to catch the ball in their sticks, and throw it ... between their respective stakes; which, whenever successfully done, counts one [point] for [the] game. For each time that the ball was passed between the stakes ... [there was a] halt of about one minute; when it was again started by the judges of the play, and a similar struggle ensued; and so on until the successful party [scored] ... 100 [points], which was the limit of the game.*

Source: George Catlin. *North American Indians*. Philadelphia, PA: Leary, Stuart and Company, 1913.

**Item 1: Multiple Choice**

Based on Source 1, which characteristic was shared by all Prehistoric cultures in Louisiana?

- A. using the bow and arrow
- B. hunting for food
- C. building villages
- D. eating their crops

**Item 2: Multiple Select**

Based on Source 2, which three statements about buffalo hunting are supported by the documents?

- the buffalo is not as large as it appears
- the buffalo is usually hunted during the summer
- the buffalo most frequently hunted is the female
- the buffalo provides materials for clothing and shelter
- the buffalo are surrounded by hunters to make the kill easy

**Item 3: Technology Enhanced Item**

Based on Source 1 and your knowledge of social studies, identify the era in which the cultural characteristic first occurred. Write the time period from the list under the Era column in the table. Fill every space in the table. All options in the list will be used.

Paleo	Early Neo
Paleo	Early Neo
Meso	Late Neo
Meso	Late Neo

Cultural Characteristic	Era
Large villages of permanent homes	
Creation of pottery	
Beginning of agriculture and cultivation	
Following herd of animals	
Women gathered pecans and persimmons	
Crossed the land bridge from Asia to North America	
Made beads, bracelets and pendants	
Built the first earthen structures known as mounds	

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



---

**Item 4: Constructed Response**

Based on the two documents in Source 2 and your knowledge of social studies, describe the steps involved in hunting the buffalo.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Scoring Notes:**

<b>Scoring Information</b>	
<b>Score Points</b>	Description
<b>4</b>	Student's response identifies all 5 steps and presents them in the correct sequence describing buffalo hunting
<b>3</b>	Student's response identifies 3-4 steps and presents them in the correct sequence describing buffalo hunting
<b>2</b>	Student's response identifies 2-3 steps and presents them in the correct sequence describing buffalo hunting
<b>1</b>	Student's response identifies only 1 step describing buffalo hunting
<b>0</b>	No student response or inaccurate response