

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

**Chapter 7: Western Virginia's First People**  
**Section 2: Historic Native Americans**

**Interpreting**

**Directions:** Every culture has a set of beliefs that guide them. Read the two sets of Native American rules of conduct below and answer the questions that follow.

Treat the Earth and all that dwell thereon with respect.  
Remain close to the Great Spirit.  
Show great respect for your fellow beings.  
Work together for the benefit of all mankind.  
Give assistance and kindness wherever needed.  
Do what you know to be right.  
Look after the well-being of mind and body.  
Dedicate a share of your efforts to the greater good.  
The Earth is our mother, care for her.  
Honor all your relations.

Open your heart and soul to the Great Spirit.  
All life is sacred, treat all things with respect.  
Take from the Earth what is needed and nothing more.  
Do what needs to be done for the good of all.  
Give constant thanks to the Great Spirit for each new day.  
Speak the truth but only of the good in others.  
Follow the rhythm of nature; rise and retire with the sun.  
Enjoy the journey, but leave no tracks.

1. Which items are basically the same? Copy them side by side.

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2. Which items are basically unique to one set of rules? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. If you had to choose one version over the other, which would you choose and why?

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4. One version has ten rules; the other has eight. Combine the two versions, but keep ten rules.

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5. All of these rules are important. Based on the importance in your life today, number the list you made in your answer to question 4 according to the ones you believe are the most important by placing a #1 beside the most important statement and a #10 beside the least important.