

Name: _____ Date: _____

A community is a social group of organisms sharing an environment, normally with shared interests. Communities can include the following types.

Geographic

- Geographic communities of people existing in a particular area (school, building, street, city, state, region, country, continent, planet).

Cultural

- Biological populations of the same species
- Ethnic or religious community of people who have particular needs, beliefs, intentions, resources, preferences, needs, or conditions that affect the identity of the participants (Hispanic, Asian American, Jewish, Christian, Buddhist)
- Communities of people who have the same culture, need, or identity (senior citizens, dog lovers)

Organizational

- Groups of nations that share common interests (NATO community, OPEC)
- Groups that have common ownership (cars, boats, electronics)
- Professionals who have the same occupation (teachers, doctors, lawyers)
- Ecological communities that depend on each other for resources
- Community organizations and clubs (historical society, Girl Scouts)

The word *community* is derived from the Latin *communitas* (meaning the same), which is in turn derived from *communis*, which means “common, public, shared by all or many”. *Communis* comes from a combination of the Latin prefix *con-* (which means “together”) and the word *munis* (which has to do with performing services).

What different communities are you a member of?

Geographic _____

Cultural _____

Organizational _____
