



The First Americans

Textbook Chapter 2 pages 24-45

The Chapter in Brief

Fill in the blanks to form a summary of Chapter 2 in AMERICA IS.

During the last Ice Age, the climate of the earth became _____, and the oceans and seas became _____ causing more _____ to be exposed. The first people came to the Western Hemisphere from _____ by way of a _____ that is now covered by the waters of the Bering Strait. Over many centuries, people moved throughout the continents of _____ and _____. The first Americans got their food by _____ animals, fishing, and by _____ plants, seeds, and roots. As early as 8000 B.C., people began _____ and gained control over their food supply. Once people began to produce food, their lives changed. They settled near fields and gardens and formed _____. As life became more complex and fewer people were needed to produce food, they began to develop _____ such as pottery making, weaving, and metal work. All of this took _____ of years.

The first Americans adapted themselves to their _____. They developed different _____, which includes food, housing, clothing, language, and customs. People who settled in the harsh environment of the Arctic were known as the _____. Some of the people who settled in the southwest part of what is now the United States lived in _____, which were made of adobe and built in the countryside or on the side of cliffs. Near the central part of North America is an area known as the _____. Many languages were spoken by the people who lived there. So they used _____ to communicate with those who spoke another language. The area of the Eastern Woodlands stretched from _____ in the north to _____ in the south. In some Eastern Woodlands villages, women owned the _____ and chose the _____.

Between 300 and 1500 A.D., three major groups of people came to power in Middle and South America. They were the _____ in the area of the _____ Peninsula, the _____ of present-day _____, and the _____ who lived in the mountains of what is now _____. These people learned to plant a number of crops, the most important being _____. They built large _____ as their capitals and trading centers. In time, each group took over nearby groups and formed _____ that were controlled by a central government.