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# Station 7 Worksheet: The Interior Plains

Look at the two maps provided. One map shows the Interior Plains region and the other map shows how the first people to have arrived in North America might have came from. Using the clues (cut-outs) given to you, describe in detail how these two maps are related. Use the cut outs on the Interior Plains Region map to give you clues on how to give reasons for your argument.

**One map shows the interior plains region and the other shows how the first people moved into North America via Siberia. The way these two maps are related is that the way the first people came in falls exactly in the same region as the Interior Plains. The reason: Everywhere else is surrounded by mountains, volcanoes, and ice sheets making it extremely difficult to trek across given the technology back then. Thus, the only way to expand is through flatter areas like the interior plains.**

How did fossil fuels form in the plains region? What are 2 concerns about fossil fuels that human society needs to take note of?

**Used to be a flooded ocean. Fossil fuels formed when plants die and fall to the ocean floor and turned into oil after many years. 2 concerns about fossil fuels: Not a renewable resource—once it’s gone it’s gone! By burning fossil fuels, you are releasing harmful gases into our atmosphere causing global climate change.**

Read the article about tornadoes. Why do you think tornadoes occur more frequently in the plains region than anywhere else?

**Area is flat in the interior plains. Cold and hot airs may clash a lot more frequently due to the extreme temperature differences. This type of mixing causes tornadoes to happen a lot more frequently in the region than anywhere else in North America.**

Describe the topography, climate, and vegetation of the region:

1. Topography:  **Gently rolling landscapes**
2. Climate:

**Continental Climate—high temperature differences with lesser precipitation.
Hot summers, cold winters.**

1. Vegetation:

**Mixed Deciduous trees, scattered evergreens**

**Prairie grasses**

**Trees in river valleys only**