



## AP<sup>®</sup> Human Geography 2003 Sample Student Responses

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Tourism has diminished regional landscape distinctiveness in that, when a place is known for its great ski slopes or towering mountains people want to experience them. As a result large buildings such as hotels and shops are added to the landscape to make it even more appealing and attract more people. When we take an area that is not very developed and add buildings, stores, <sup>and</sup> roads ~~and~~ we take away and often harm the natural landscape of the area. For example if there was a small lake surrounded by high mountains and great winter and spring skiing this is a perfect place to build a resort town and make lots of money. The distinctiveness of the area is lost when we start to add highways to bring in people, cut down trees and put motor boats on the water.

Tourism has also had to opposite effect on the landscape. In areas that have been overused but still have that beauty that draws people to them, we clean up the area, fix the roads, plant trees and try to clean waterways in order to bring people back to the area. We try to keep places nice in order to bring in tourism and increase the amount of money.

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that comes into that city or town.  
Tourism has both a positive and negative effect on that landscape and its distinctiveness.

- In nice places where we think might be a good tourist spot we add things that will make people want to come back for example parks and beaches these would really enhance the landscape distinctiveness.

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A. As more people seek forms of entertaining leisure, many sponsoring companies decide to stick with what has worked in the past. They combine hot dogs, cotton candy, domesticated wild life and penny smashers and create yet another zoo. Or, in our ever-increasing need to return to nature, they level some land, plant some grass, a few wimpy trees and add a swing set and call it a park. Zoos and parks in Houston, Atlanta and Buffalo have become nearly identical because companies don't want to risk failure.

B. There are some companies who will risk the money (after many surveys) to construct specialty parks and resorts. For example, everyone can identify Disney World Magic Kingdom. It's the one with the big castle. Most people can also identify the Seattle towers. Both of these have served to make their respective cities what they are: Seattle is an industrial center; Orlando is a resort city. There are some places that we identify ~~only~~ through their landmarks: San Francisco is one. The sites we have come to expect have changed our view of certain regions.

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A Tourism, the largest industry worldwide, has both destructive and enhancing tendencies. Tourism can cause a region to lose distinctiveness. Tourism puts a large emphasis on beaches and getting away to the ocean. Each region with a beach becomes just another tourist spot over there. People who venture to the Caribbean think of the landscape of beaches foremost. One does not tend to consider each beach of a region's beach as distinctive. They are lumped together. One tends to forget about cultures and distinctions of those who live and live off of the tourism in the region. They, those who work for a tourist company, are locals at times. They don't make the money off of the tourist. The company does. Tourism tends to hurt a people in a region at times and not always aid it. Cultures of those separate regions traveled to fade away. Do people tend to think of the differences in the landscape and culture of say Georgetown, Grand Cayman and Sydney, Australia? Probably not as much as one thinks of those places being known as having just great beaches.

B Tourism can also enhance regional landscape distinctiveness. Companies can cater to the uniqueness of a particular region. A place could be known for its untouched landscape. Ecotourism is growing now. People want to see places that aren't built up and that provide one specific experience. People may travel to a particular place in Africa because it is distinct among places as great for a safari. A certain place may keep its distinctiveness as being a great place for rock climbing. People can travel to a place because of its regional landscape distinctiveness. It can be for cultural as

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well as physical landscape. People travelling there either expose the area to others as being distinct. ~~or keep~~ It may be a place of unparalleled art history, like Paris. It could be a place known for its <sup>distinct</sup> architecture. The tourism in these places keep the culture and physical landscape of the region as a distinct place in the world to see such things.