*U.S. History (Gr. 11) New West Charter School Instructor: Ms. Hynes*

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_**

**Prehistoric American Geographic Regions**

Matching Exercise

Match the geographic region (left) with the correct corresponding description of that region (right).

Treeless grasslands. Mostly an agricultural society before the European introduction of horses; after which this region’s peoples adopted a nomadic lifestyle and mainly hunted buffalo in addition to foraging and light agriculture.

**Southwest (incl. California and Mexico)**

**Great Plains**

Natural desert area below sea level. Harsh environment; people were primarily hunters of small prey and “diggers” (seeds, nuts, roots, berries).

**Northwest Coast**

Heavily forested temperate region with distinct seasonal variation. The rich environment allowed for hunting, foraging, farming, and due to close proximity to the great lakes and the Atlantic, fishing.

**Plateau**

**Southeast**

Primarily an arid (hot and dry) region but with many diverse geographic features (desert, mountains, pastures, rivers). People were farmers and nomadic hunters.

**Eastern Woodlands**

Situated on a higher elevation with more rugged weather conditions, and thus less densely populated than the nearby Northwest Coast, but the region’s great rivers, forests, and grasslands provided ample fishing and foraging opportunities.

**Great Basin**

Combination of warm coastal areas, humid, marshy lowlands and arid western areas. People were primarily agricultural, but also hunted and foraged.

Densely populated Pacific region with rivers and forests rich with fish and game, and other resources which allowed groups to build and share wealth (potlatch ceremonies)