

Name:

Date:

Native American Languages Today

Native American Reading Comprehension Passage

Today, **Native American languages** continue to be spoken across the United States, although many have fewer speakers than they did in the past. There are hundreds of Indigenous languages, and each one reflects the unique history, culture, and traditions of a Native American Nation. These languages are an important part of community identity and cultural heritage.

Many Native American communities are working to preserve and strengthen their languages. Tribal schools, language classes, cultural programs, and community events help children and adults learn traditional words, songs, and stories. Elders often play an important role by sharing their knowledge with younger generations.

Modern technology also supports language preservation. Some tribes use websites, mobile apps, online dictionaries, videos, and digital lessons to teach Native American languages. These tools make it easier for families and students to practice at home and help keep Indigenous languages alive for future generations.

Learning about **Native American languages** helps students understand the rich diversity of Indigenous cultures across the United States. Every language tells a story about the people who speak it and reminds us why preserving languages is an important part of protecting cultural heritage.

Vocabulary

1. Indigenous:

2. Heritage:

3. Preserve:

4. Generation:

5. Identity:

Vocabulary

1. Indigenous:

2. Heritage:

3. Preserve:

4. Generation:

5. Identity:

Multiple Choice

1. Why are Native American languages important?
 - A. They are only used in museums.
 - B. They reflect the history, culture, and traditions of Native American Nations.
 - C. They are spoken in every country.
 - D. They are no longer used.

2. Who often helps teach Native American languages?
 - A. Scientists
 - B. Elders
 - C. Tourists
 - D. Athletes

3. Which tool is helping preserve Native American languages today?
 - A. Mobile apps
 - B. Television commercials
 - C. Video games only
 - D. Newspapers only

4. Where can people learn Native American languages?
 - A. Tribal schools and community programs
 - B. Only in colleges
 - C. Only in libraries
 - D. Only at museums

Short Answer

1. Why do Native American communities work to preserve their languages?

2. Name two ways people can learn Native American languages today.

3. How does technology help keep Native American languages alive?

Main Idea

What is the passage mostly about?

Text Evidence

Write one fact from the passage that shows Native American languages are still being taught today.

Answer Key

Vocabulary (Sample Answers)

1. **Indigenous** – the first people of a region.
2. **Heritage** – the traditions, culture, and history passed through generations.
3. **Preserve** – to protect and keep something alive.
4. **Generation** – a group of people born around the same time.
5. **Identity** – the qualities and traditions that make a community unique.

Multiple Choice

1. B
2. B
3. A
4. A
5. B

Sample Answers

1. To protect their culture, traditions, and history for future generations.
2. Tribal schools, language classes, cultural programs, community events, or online lessons.
3. Technology provides apps, websites, videos, and online dictionaries that make learning easier.

Main Idea: Native American communities continue to preserve and teach their languages through education, culture, and technology.

Text Evidence: *"Tribal schools, language classes, cultural programs, and community events help children and adults learn traditional words, songs, and stories."*