

Human impact: Amazon case study

The impact of western civilisation upon Indigenous people of the Amazon has been significant, resulting in many changes to traditional lifestyles.

1. Use the information from the video to complete the following table:

CULTURAL CHARACTERISTIC	'TRADITIONAL' the culture that existed before western influence	'MODERN' the culture that currently exists
lifestyle		
uses for the rainforest		
hunting techniques		
transport		
gender roles		
disease control		
human impact on the environment		

2. Humans have a significant impact on the Amazon rainforest. Discuss how they affect the following:

- forest density
- use of animals
- food supplies
- energy and mineral reserves

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3. Describe how the following have been affected by human activities in the Amazon rainforest:

- air quality
- soil quality
- river water quality

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Investigation activity

4. Choose another indigenous culture influenced by Western civilisation. Compare and contrast the impact upon traditional lifestyles.

