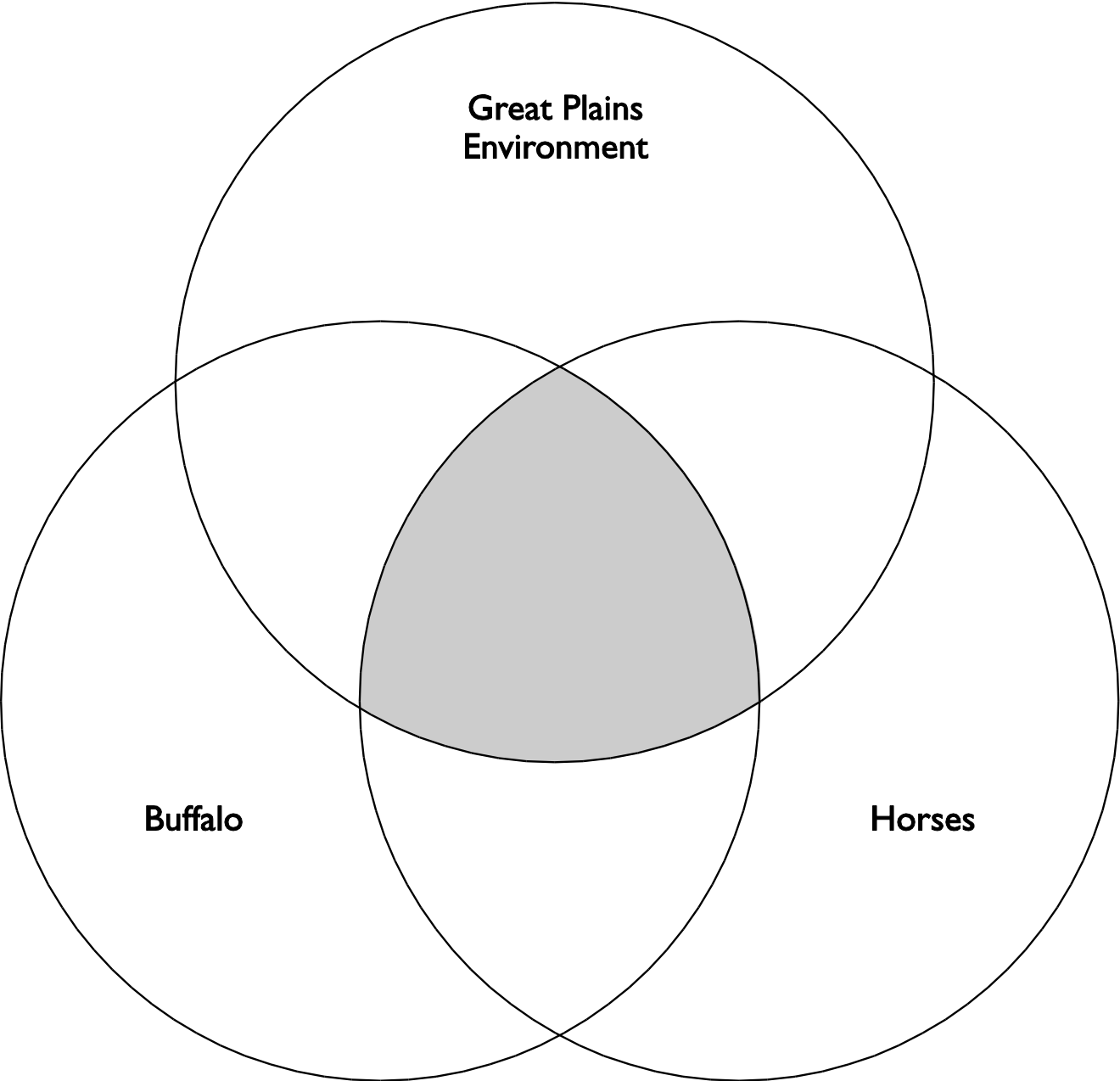


Explain

Influences on the Sioux Way of Life

This revision activity works best if you do it with a friend, and talk about it as you do it.

The Sioux way of life was dominated by three factors:



Below, you will find cards detailing 30 aspects of the Sioux way of life.

Working with a classmate:

1. Cut out the cards.
2. Sort the cards by placing each card on the factor – environment, buffalo or horses – which had influenced that behaviour. Where you feel that a behaviour was influenced by two factors (e.g. buffalo AND horses), or even all three factors, place it on the overlapping areas of the Venn Diagram.
3. There are no right or wrong answers – explain your choices to another group.
4. Can you think of anything else the Sioux did which could be included on the diagram?
5. When you have finished, make a pile of all the behaviours which were affected by the Sioux's RELIGION.

The Sioux were nomadic hunter-gatherers	The buffalo hunt was a very important event	Men hunted the buffalo	The raw and still-warm buffalo heart was a great delicacy to eat	The women prepared the different parts of the buffalo after the hunt
Most tribes allowed polygamy	A wife was bought with a dowry of horses	A Sioux's status was measured by how many horses he owned	Warfare was mainly about horse stealing	Horses were used as currency
The Sioux had a life of 'continual wandering'	The Sioux lived in tipis	The Sioux travelled together in family groups called bands	The old or ill voluntarily chose 'exposure'	Sioux sports were horse-riding and firing arrows
Women's leisure activities mostly involved decorating buffalo skins	If a man did not want to follow the orders of the Chief he did not need to	A pipe would be smoked during tribal meetings	There were no laws or prisons; the worst punishment was banishment	The Sioux continually performed small ceremonies and said prayers
Ceremonies to bring the buffalo or rain	The Sioux would ask permission of the vegetable before digging it up	The Sioux saw life as a circle and pitched their camps in a circle	When young men got to adolescence they would fast and use a sweat lodge to gain a vision	The Sioux often performed dances, e.g. the Sun Dance
If a Sioux was losing a battle he often ran away	'Counting coup' was considered brave	Warrior societies, such as the <i>Akicita</i> , controlled the hunt and advised on war	The Sioux used bows and arrows in their hunting and warfare	After a battle, the Sioux would scalp or mutilate their dead enemies