

Canadian Geography 1202

Unit 1 Lesson 7

Human Systems (p.58)

People depend on natural systems for survival

Human activities have an impact on natural systems

Natural systems influence people's activities

- We use **technology to** harvest natural resources and create lifestyles that are different from one place to another.
- We clear forests to build farms, create chemicals to control pests, build transportation routes to make connections between places, and build dams to reduce flooding and create hydroelectric power.

Examples of Human Systems

- Whenever you go shopping for clothes, music, sports equipment, or other products, you are interacting with Canada's **economic system** as well as the **transportation system** in your area.
- Transportation systems are the interconnecting networks of roads and the bus, train, airline, and cycling routes that link you with other people and places.
- Economic systems are integrated activities that produce and deliver all the goods and services that we enjoy every day.
- Main Human Systems:
 - Communication
 - Economics
 - Energy
 - Transportation
 - Infrastructure

Infrastructure

- Most people never think about where their water comes from or how it gets up to the top of a skyscraper. They don't often consider how electricity makes its way into their home when they switch on the light, not to mention what happens to all that stuff that they flush down the toilet.

- Vital services supply us with electricity, water, telephone service, heat, roads, and waste removal, among other things. Infrastructure systems within cities include transportation networks that move people and products from one place to another.

Characteristics of Human Systems

- Depend on natural systems
- Are not well understood by humans
- Can be affected by outside events and influences
- Are interconnected in a complicated network of relationships
- May recycle wastes, but often leave harmful waste
- Operate on shorter timelines than natural systems
- Display Synergy