

The Landscape of the Highlands



A small loch in the saddle between Beinn an Dothaidh and Beinn Dorain



Ben Nevis and Mountain Stream

① Read the text and work on the following tasks:

- Underline all unknown words, look them up and write down the translations.
- List the different landscapes and natural features mentioned in the text.
- Compare and contrast the Scottish Highlands with another natural landscape that you are familiar with.
- Evaluate the depiction of the Highlands in the opening Scene of Merida. Does the film do a good job in depicting the landscape? Give reasons for your answer.

② Nature in the Highlands

The Scottish Highlands are a beautiful and diverse area of Scotland that is known for its rugged landscapes and stunning natural beauty. It is located in the northern part of the country and is characterized by its rolling hills, towering mountains, and deep valleys. The area is also home to many lochs (lakes) and rivers, which provide a habitat for a wide variety of wildlife, including otters, deer, and eagles.

One of the most famous features of the Highlands is Ben Nevis, the tallest mountain in the British Isles. The mountain is a popular spot for hikers and climbers, who come to take on the challenging ascent to the summit. Along the way, they are rewarded with stunning views of the surrounding countryside and the glistening waters of nearby lochs.

Another notable feature of the Highlands is the Great Glen, a large geological fault that runs from Fort William in the west to

Inverness in the east. This glen is home to some of Scotland's most famous lochs, including Loch Ness, which is known for its legendary monster, and Loch Oich, which is surrounded by lush forests and rolling hills.

In addition to its stunning natural beauty, the Highlands are also rich in cultural heritage. This region has a rich history that can be seen in its many historic castles, such as Eilean Donan Castle, Urquhart Castle, and Dunrobin Castle. These castles provide a glimpse into Scotland's past and its ongoing struggle for independence.

Overall, the Scottish Highlands is a truly unique and beautiful place that is sure to leave a lasting impression on all who visit. Whether you are a lover of the great outdoors, a history buff, or just someone looking for a peaceful escape from the hustle and bustle of modern life, the Highlands has something to offer everyone.