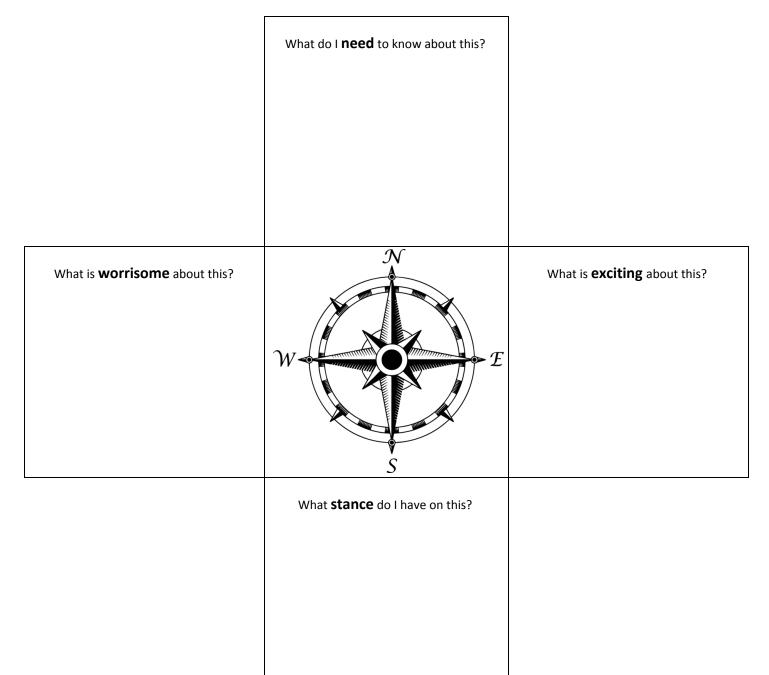
Humans' decisions determine whether societies collapse or succeed.



Easter Island's End?

Do environmental reasons usually play the most significant in the collapse of a society?

Source #1: Jared Diamond (1995), Easter's End, *Discover*: http://discovermagazine.com/1995/aug/eastersend543

Criteria for judging significance:

Possible factors	Judgment of significance	Evidence
Before reading, predict which ones you think might be most significant.	0 [not relevant] → 4 [very significant]	Include reasoning for your judgment and use evidence from the article to support your thinking.
1. Environmental factors		
2. Foreign invasion		
3. Climate change		

4.	Destruction of natural resources	
5.	Overpopulation	
6.	Disease	
7.	Conflict	

Conclusions:

• According to Diamond, how significant were environmental factors compared to others?

Self-assessment checklist

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D.

- Did I carefully assess the significance of each factor?
- Can I explain why the Rapanui society collapsed?
- Were my judgments supported by clear reasoning and evidence from the article?

- How convincing is Diamond's argument?
- Have other failed societies collapsed for the same reasons?