Standard 3-2.1 Compare the culture, governance, and physical environment of the major Native American tribal groups of South Carolina, including the Cherokee, Catawba, and Yemassee.

**Native American Tribes of the Eastern Woodlands**
The Native American tribes of the Eastern Woodlands living in South Carolina differed from one another in language. However, the culture and government structure of these tribes were similar. The physical environment of each tribal area played a large role in shaping each culture.

**Cherokee**
- Cherokee culture involved living off the mountainous land of the Blue Ridge Mountain region and the hilly western Piedmont.
- The Cherokee settled near rivers and the Cherokee nation was comprised of many villages that were loosely united with each other.
- Cherokee traveled from village to village in large dugout canoes.
- There were hunters/gathers, fisherman, and farmers.
- They lived in longhouses during the summer and wattle and daub houses in the winter.
- The Cherokee were powerful and thought of themselves as “the real people”.
- Their villages were run by councils where different leaders made decisions affecting the people.
- The leaders were elected and the Cherokee had a form of a constitution.
- Cherokee women sat on the village council and had a significant voice in whether or not the tribe went to war.
- The Cherokee were traders and had a well-traveled trail that ran from the mountains to the Atlantic Ocean.

**Catawba**
- The Catawba lived off the land of the Piedmont.
- There were also hunters and farmers.
- The Catawba traveled the rivers in dugout canoes and were known as “River People”.
- They were powerful in their part of the state, near where the city of Rock Hill is located today.
- The Catawba lived in wigwams and were also governed by councils.
- The Catawba were famous for their pottery.
They were more peaceful than many Native Americans of that time in South Carolina.

**Yemassee**

- The Yemassee lived in the coastal zone on the southern coast of South Carolina, near the Georgia border.
- They lived in wigwams close to the coast in the summer.
- They lived farther inland in wattle and daub houses along rivers during the winter.
- The Yemassee hunted, fished, farmed, and gathered clams and oysters.