

Oral Histories *Handout*

Students read oral histories on three lakes and complete skills practice questions.

Reading Practice 1 – Lake Jesup

Read the oral history about Lake Jesup and complete the questions below.

Go to <http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/> and find the document “Oral History - Lake Jesup” in the Water Atlas Digital Library. Read the oral history and answer the following questions about the reading.

1. Much of the area surrounding Lake Jesup remains undeveloped because:
 - a. it is used to grow celery.
 - b. local governments have purchased the land.
 - c. the area is marshland and prone to flooding.
 - d. people do not know there is land available.
2. “This combined with wastewater treatment discharge caused the build-up of muck and a decrease in oxygen, which negatively affected the fish population.” The word muck most nearly means:
 - a. fine sand
 - b. slimy, dark dirt
 - c. assorted debris
 - d. rotting plant material
3. According to Mr. Scherer, the St. Johns River originally flowed into the lake making it like a big washing machine. “Like a big washing machine” is an example of which literary device?
 - a. simile
 - b. metaphor
 - c. personification
 - d. hyperbole
4. From the article, the reader can conclude:
 - a. Wildlife habitat around the lake is threatened.
 - b. The number of wild boars has increased.
 - c. Frogging is a difficult activity.
 - d. There is much support for the restoration of the lake.
5. The construction in the 1950’s of the State Road 46 Bridge Causeway negatively affected the ecology of Lake Jesup. Use details from the article to explain why this is so.
6. Explain how continued development of Lake Jesup will have both positive and negative impacts. Use details from the article to support your response. (Use the back of this paper for your answer.)

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Reading Practice 2 – Rock Lake

Read the oral history about Rock Lake and complete the questions below.

Go to <http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/> and find the document “Oral History – Rock Lake” in the Water Atlas Digital Library. Read the oral history and answer the following questions about the reading:

1. At the time of the interview, Marchetta no longer fishes in Rock Lake because:
 - a. the lake is too polluted.
 - b. her boat leaks.
 - c. her husband is not well.
 - d. the lake has been over fished.

2. Little has been done to preserve Rock Lake or restore it to its natural state because:
 - a. there is no association for homeowners.
 - b. lake doctors are too expensive.
 - c. residents do not care about the lake’s future.
 - d. no strong leader has stepped forward to coordinate efforts.

3. The author’s primary purpose for writing this article is to:
 - a. persuade the reader to join in efforts to restore the lake.
 - b. inform the reader of the current status of the lake.
 - c. Record the Heckenbachs’ story.
 - d. convince the reader to write letters to local officials.

4. Explain how traditional land use and the type of wildlife found in and around Rock Lake have changed dramatically in the nearly thirty years since the Heckenbachs have built their home. Use words and phrases from the article to support your answer.

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Reading Practice 3 – Lake Orienta

Read the oral history about Lake Orienta and complete the questions below.

Go to <http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/> and find the document “Oral History – Lake Orienta” in the Water Atlas Digital Library. Read the oral history and answer the following questions about the reading:

1. According to the article, the Stovers have done everything on Lake Orienta except:
 - a. kayaking.
 - b. sailing.
 - c. jet skiing.
 - d. fishing.

2. “He (Roger) attributes this (the color of the water) to the increasing road runoff and fertilizers coming into the lake, which is exacerbated by the fact that it is a fairly stagnant water body...” The word exacerbated most probably means:
 - a. made more severe
 - b. over-emphasized
 - c. lessened
 - d. overlooked

3. Roger probably feels the carp should be removed from the lake because:
 - a. they eat other fish.
 - b. they add to the pollution.
 - c. people can’t eat them.
 - d. they have gotten too big.

4. Explain how the environment in and around Lake Orienta has changed since Roger and his wife moved there twenty-six years ago. Support your response with words and phrases from the article.

Name:

Date: