

Eng 491B

Module 10B

Worksheet

“In Defense of the Wetland Sublime”

Instructions: Record and respond to #1 and your choice of #2-5

1. Record and respond to a quote that resonates with you to share in class discussion.
2. Cite evidence of the marsh's rich bio-diversity.
3. With questions frame the author's inquiry into the wetlands?
4. What logic does the author use to defend the preservation of wetlands? What two natural catastrophes are associated with this argument?
5. How might you make an ethical appeal on behalf of preserving or restoring wetlands? What might be morally wrong about not preserving or restoring them?

The Causes of Wetland Degradation. Do # 2 and your choice of another question.

1. What facts does the author quote as evidence of wetland degradation?
2. What are the primary causes of wetland degradation?
3. In arguing his defense of the wetlands, that author asserts that they must be “allowed to endure as sanctuaries” of what?
5. What historical examples are cited to support the author's claims?
6. Who does the author quote to support his argument for preservation and/or restoration?

Solutions (chose one).

1. What solution is proposed for restoring wetlands?
2. What actions have been taken in the effort to preserve the extinction of wetland species?
3. What facts are cited as evidence of the problem?
4. Who is quoted as sources of this evidence?
5. What government agencies have taken this action?

Solutions: Freshwater Turtles (Do #2 and your choice of one other question)

1. How does the solution with respect to freshwater turtles satisfy the competing interests of “harvesters” and “conservationists?”
2. What is causing the rapid decline of turtles?
3. What facts are cited to support the claim that the plight of the freshwater turtle is but a symptom of a “deeper crisis that threatens biodiversity worldwide?”
4. What species were saved from extinction by an “earlier generation of eco-activists? What organization led this earlier effort? Why is that example significant for today?
5. What led to the catastrophic decline of these species a century ago?

Everglades Restoration (Do # 4 and one other question).

1. What progress does the author cite in the effort to restore The Everglades?
2. Who are the opposing interests in this conflict? What alliances were formed?
3. What has been the source of wetland degradation in this instance?
4. What are the details of this restoration plan? What is the “central element” of the plan?
5. What are the benefits in establishing habitat “corridors?”
6. Why is restoring wetlands an “ethical imperative?”