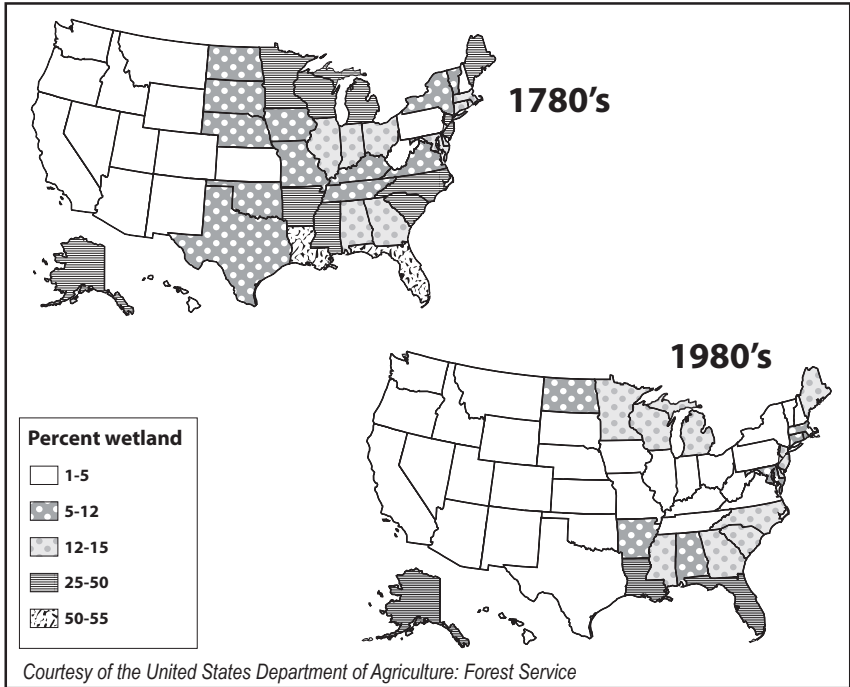


MAP ACTIVITY

Habitat in Crisis!

Answer the questions as described in Part A and Part B.



PART A: Use the maps to answer the questions.

- Who created these maps?
 - What data was used to create the maps?
 - Why are two maps shown?
 - Why is only one map key shown?
 - What is the purpose of the maps?
- Write an appropriate title to go at the top of the maps.
- Compare and analyze the maps:
 - How are they the same?
 - How are they different?
 - In what way do the differences on the maps indicate a pattern?
- Make a prediction about the percentage of wetlands in the United States in 2080. Cite evidence from the maps to support your prediction.

PART B: Read the letter and answer the questions.

- 1) Dear State Senator,
- 2) The Senate is voting tomorrow on whether or not to drain the wetlands in our area and develop them into farmland. I understand that farmland is important, but the wetlands are important too!
- 3) Many plants, fish, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals, depend on our wetlands. If you drain the wetlands, you will destroy their natural habitat! Also, our wetlands are a nursery for hundreds of species of birds that fly to the wetlands to lay and hatch their eggs. Habitat loss could cause some of these birds to become endangered—or maybe even extinct!
- 4) As important as it is to preserve the habitat of our plants and animals, there are more reasons not to drain the wetlands. Did you know that wetlands help remove toxic chemicals and pollution from our water and air? It's no wonder wetlands are known as the sponges of life! Also, did you know that wetlands prevent flooding by absorbing extra water from too much rain? Imagine the houses and roads that would be flooded if not for our wetlands!
- 5) With all this information, I hope that you agree that we must save the wetlands! I urge you to vote against allowing our wetlands to be drained.
- 6) Sincerely,
A concerned citizen

5. A. What is the purpose of the letter?
B. Is the purpose stated outright or implied? Explain.
C. How does the author attempt to achieve his or her purpose?
D. In your opinion is the author effective? Why or why not?
6. Describe the organizational style of the letter by explaining the purpose of each section of the letter, 1-6.
7. Choose the word from each pair that **best** describes the style of the text. Cite examples from the text to explain your choices.
A. formal *–or–* informal
B. informative *–or–* narrative
C. fact *–or–* opinion
8. A. Write an extra paragraph that could be included in the letter, using some of the information from the maps. In your paragraph, cite the source of your information and at least two facts that you got from analyzing the maps.
B. Does the extra paragraph you wrote make the letter more or less effective? Explain why.

PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS

Political Cartoon

Look at the political cartoon and answer the questions.

The cartoon was created by Herbert Block in 1973.



- What do you notice first in the cartoon? Why?
 - List 5 additional observations.
- Describe the types of pollution shown in the cartoon.
 - List 5 causes of pollution that are shown.
- Describe the people shown in the cartoon.
 - If they were to speak, what do you think they would say? Why?
- Find and describe any animals shown in the cartoon.
 - If they could speak, what do you think they would say? Why?
- Describe the purpose/objective of the cartoon.
 - In your opinion, is the cartoon effective? Why or why not?

PROBLEM-SOLUTION-RESULTS

Conservation Vocabulary

Read the text and complete the vocabulary activity.

Plant and animal habitats are delicate and can be easily destroyed. Some habitat loss is natural, but most is caused by human activities. The actions that occur in one place can negatively affect animals, plants, and humans in other places in the world!

However, people can make positive differences too. As an informed, active citizen, you can consider the effect on habitats when you make personal buying and lifestyle choices; you can affect your community's choices by voting or participating in government; you can volunteer for habitat-helping causes; and you can directly or indirectly help habitats through your future career!

1. Complete the graphic organizer for each word or phrase.

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| conservation | pesticides | deforestation | pollution |
| environmentalism | preservation | over-population | recycling |
| littering | sustainability | emissions | wastefulness |

DEFINITION	FACTS/CHARACTERISTICS
WORD	
HOW IT RELATES TO HABITATS	

2. Classify each vocabulary word as either a **PROBLEM** that contributes to habitat loss, or as a **SOLUTION** that can help avoid or reduce habitat loss, and write it in the correct column on the table below.

PROBLEMS	SOLUTIONS