

West Morris Central
AP Environmental Summer Assignment

“A Sand County Almanac”
By Aldo Leopold

Directions: Read the book: "A Sand County Almanac" by Aldo Leopold. There are some limited copies in room C-135 to borrow for the summer. Most of the questions are right out of the book in order. There are also questions involving defining words, map making, and drawing. The first half of the packet goes in order of the book, from January to December. You will have to skip around the book to answer the other question sections. This means you are not required to read the entire book to complete this packet, but are highly recommended. If you have any questions you can email me during the summer. This book is written by a gentleman who did not have ambitions about publishing it. His children came across these memoirs after an unexpected passing. Aldo Leopold's book has been referred to as "The bible of the modern environmental movement." His ideas transformed an entire generation. There is an American lesson to be learned about journaling. Each and every one of you may have an idea that could transform a generation, share it in print. Enjoy your summer. See you in August.

Mr. Lawrence

Part I: A Sand County Almanac

January

What type of wildlife stirs at during this month?

How does snow mean freedom from want and fear for the meadow mouse?

How does a snow thaw mean freedom from want and fear for the rough-legged hawk?

During the thaw, how did the rabbit's freedom of want and abandonment of fear cause a problem?

What descriptor best fits January, and why?

Vocabulary: Define the following.

Amorous -

rabbit buck -

February

What are the two spiritual dangers of not owning a farm:

Vocabulary: Define the following using the internet

andirons -

flora -

fauna -

"face cord" -

seasoned firewood –

refuge -

market gunner –

What type of energy is found in wood that is used for heating your house?

Where did this energy come from originally?

What killed the oak before Aldo Leopold turned it into firewood?

How long did Aldo Leopold wait to cut the tree up for firewood?

What is significant about concentric rings of a good oak?

When did the reign of the bootlegger end?

When did the first starling appear in Wisconsin?

What was the drainage dream of the 1910-20's?

What was started in 1912?

What was the trend in 1890's?

What is Arbor Day?

Is the farm still used for farming while Aldo Leopold was writing this book?

In 1866 The last _____ was killed?

Are there elk in Wisconsin now? Why or Why not. Use the internet to find out.

1865 – How old was John Muir (famous conservationist) when he offered to buy his brother's farm? Why did he do it? Look up John Muir's age on the internet.

What is the allegory for historians? What does this mean?

How is the sawdust of woodsmen the archives by historians?

How does part of the good oak return to the sawyer?

March

What does Aldo Leopold use as an indicator for spring?

Use the internet to find and give an example of an animal collective noun. Include a picture on a separate sheet of paper and staple it to your packet.

What makes geese a better indicator of spring compared to the cardinal or chipmunk.

Respond to: "Is education possibly a process of trading awareness for things of lesser worth?"

Describe prairie bias. p. 22

Describe the anthropomorphic behavior of geese on page 22.

Vocabulary: Define the following.

Skein –

Pinions -

Make a map of the different migrations of geese in these world locations. The maps are located on the last page of the packet. Use different colors to represent the different paths taken.

China Sea to Siberian Steppe, Euphrates to Volga River, Nile River to Murmansk Russia, Lincolnshire (county in England) to Spitsbergen Norway, Currituck (county in North Carolina) to Labrador (is a region of Atlantic Canada), Mattamuskeet, North Carolina to Ungava Bay Canada, Horseshoe Lake (Illinois) to Hudson's Bay, Avery Island (Louisiana) to Baffin Land (Canada & Greenland), Panhandle to Mackenzie River (in the Northwest Territories), Sacramento California to Yukon.

What is the net profit that a wild poem dropped from the murky skies upon the muds of March?

How does the flow of energy move from the fields of Illinois to the Arctic tundras?

Why does Aldo Leopold refer to the nightless June skies of the tundras as waste sunlight?

When was the Pleistocene? Use the internet to answer.

April

How can people be attracted to live near water and then complain about being flooded?

What two animals look forward to the rising waters?

What do the spring floods bring?

Describe why an island on lake or a peak in the cloud offer no solitude. What does offer solitude?

What is your impression of Draba. If Draba were a person, who would it be. Give some details describing why you made your choice.

Bur Oak

What is special about the bur oak?

What helps the oak withstand fire?

What does pollen grains embedded in peats tell us about the prairie wars?

What animals were involved in the prairie wars? Whose side were they on?

What was the most important abiotic allie of the prairie grasses?

What is the sky dance?

When does it occur? Just give month(s) and general times, morning afternoon evening.

How does the specific time of the dance change? What is the need for this change?

Vocabulary –

bigamous -

prodigious –

May

What animal is the final proof of spring (circle your answer):

- A. upland plover
- B. meadowlarks
- C. redwings

How many miles has the bird from the above question traveled to its spring location?

What are the real abiotic threats to the bird from the above question?

Why did the bird from the first “May” question above get hunted?

June

Vocabulary

Define: phalanx

How are people and fish similar?

What is a prudent man?

Are fishermen prudent men?

July

How does the size of Aldo Leopold's property change?

Who are some of the tenants on Aldo Leopold's property?

Why are they negligent about the rent?

What kind of poetry do dogs read?

What kind of poetry do birds create?

What happens that shrinks Aldo Leopold's property to the dimensions known by the county clerks?

What types of anniversaries happen every week from April to September?

What saved the prairie plants?

What new change is going to threaten the small remaining prairie grass?

What is good about "idol spots"?

What is a biological factor to the success of Silphium?

August

Vocabulary

Define: evanescent

Describe the river painting analogy

What is the paint along the canvas of the river?

What is the canvas of the river?

What happens to the painting from time to time?

Why do you have to enjoy it for the moment?

September

vocabulary: contralto

What was the main theme of September?

October

What are the two types of hunting?

What is the smoky gold?

How does a hunter steal a hunt?

What is a better chronometer than the jackpines?

Vocabulary:

Define turgid –

Define solarium -

Hand Draw a picture of the constellation of Orion: Use the internet for help. Staple the picture to your packet. Do not print or photocopy a picture.

What is Aldo's view of the early morning?

How does darkness humble the arrogant?

What are the red lanterns?

What do the red lanterns signify?

What is the olfactory gold?

When do the blackberry bushes completely lose their leaves?

November

What tool completes the two statements below:

“When some remote ancestor of ours invented the _____, he

became a giver, he could plant a tree. And when the _____ was invented, he became a taker.

Where does your future career fit into one of the three categories (circle one):

- A. giver
- B. taker
- C. avoidance of either

The best definition of conservation is written with _____

How does Aldo Leopold compare the value of the different trees growing on his property? Give three examples from pages 73 & 74

Where does plant bias come from?

Do you have any plant biases?

What should every farm woodland yield?

Name one lesson that Aldo Leopold has learned from his woodland:

Are tree diseases bad?

Vocabulary:

Vocations –

Avocations –

Indolence –

slough –

December

Vocabulary:

shock –

platitudinous –

perpetuity -

ramrod straight –

tyro –

suet –

replete –

Complete the statement from the passage in the book: Acts of creation are usually reserved for: _____ & _____

What is the terminal bud of the pine tree described as?

Why is the description for the terminal bud of the pine tree appropriate?

How can pine trees be used to describe the growing season of the previous year?

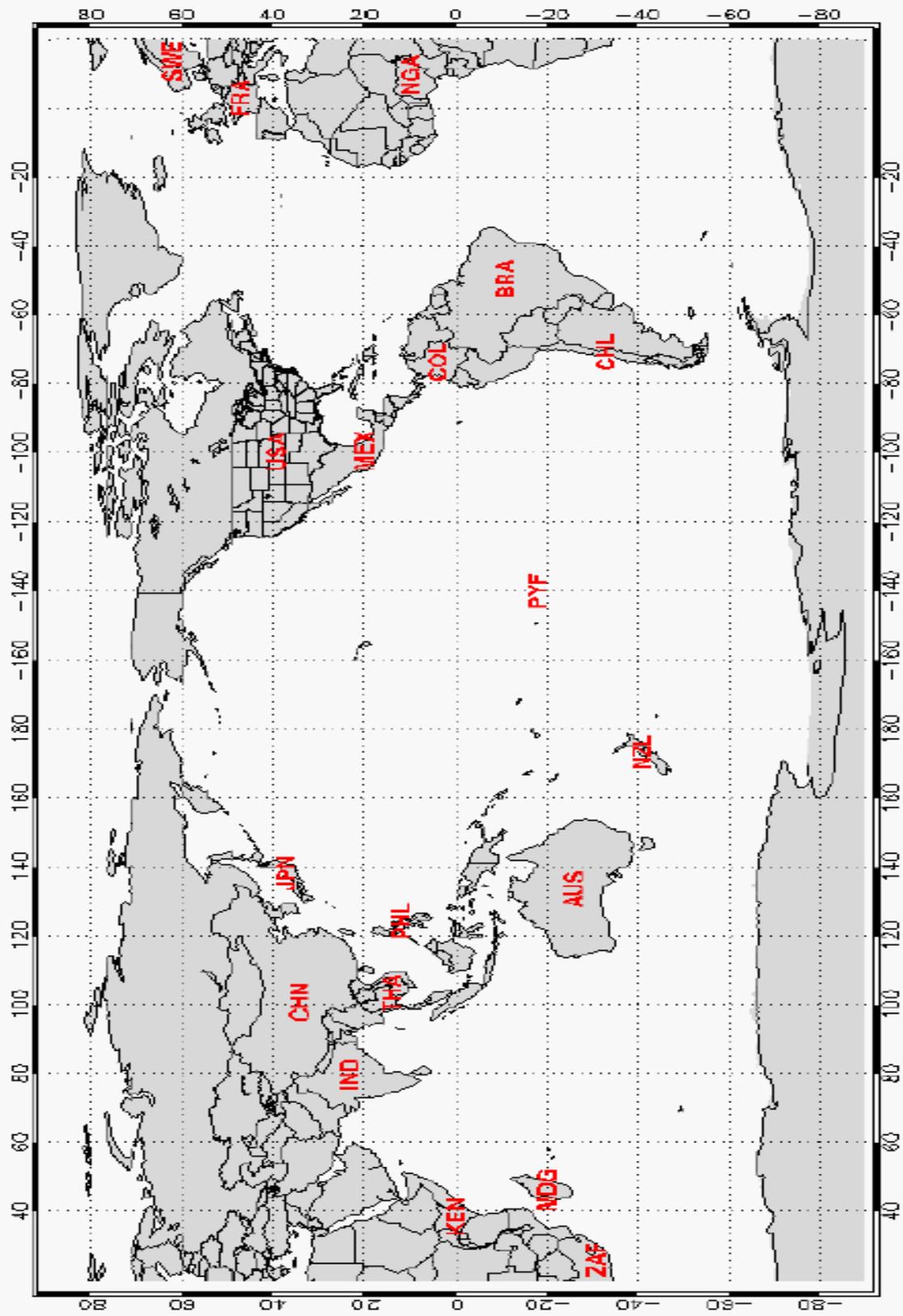
What is the Anglo Saxon doctrine of marriage?

Do all pine species mature around the same age?

How are the needles of a pine tree like politicians in office?

What does number 65290 represent?

Where did Aldo Leopold find evidence a banded chickadee being murdered?



Wisconsin

Marshland Elegy

Vocabulary:

Elegy –

Morass –

Aeons –

Revocable –

roan –

moraines –

ribald –

plied –

acrid –

“shite pokes” –

1. What is the 1st perception of quality in nature? (p.102)
2. What is the highest perception of quality in nature?
3. Describe the creation of a peat bog?
4. How long ago was the Eocene? (Use the Web)
5. Where is the Baraboo Range & Wisconsin River? (Use the Web) email a map that has the locations highlighted
6. How did man attack the marsh?
7. Why did they attack the marsh?
8. What is the difference in sustainability between the Arcadian age of marsh dwellers and the new overlords?

9. Why were the drained ditches an additional dept?
10. Were cranes valued in changing progress of march ecology?
11. What were the CCC camps?
12. What is the ultimate value in marshes?
13. What is the wilderness incarnate?
14. What is the far pasture of the Milky Way?
15. What are baby cranes called?

Name: _____

Date:

Use the Book to answer the following questions. Most of the answers come directly from the book.
Country

1. What is the difference between land and country (the author's difference)?
2. Describe the fallacy presented at the bottom of page 178.

A Man's Leisure Time

3. What does the quote "How miserable are the idle hours of the ignorant man!" mean?
4. What hobbies have been prescribed to you?
5. "A hobby is a defiance of the _____? _____"
6. What was the significance of a hobby of a simple old German man?
7. What is your hobby? Would Leopold consider it a good by his standards? (using his standards on p. 182)

Part IV The Upshot

The Land Ethic, - 237

1. What is an ethic according to Leopold?
2. How does a regular ethic change into the land ethic?

The Ecological Conscience

3. What happened to southwestern Wisconsin's farming area?
4. How has short term thinking affected the farming in southwestern Wisconsin?

Substitutes for a Land Ethic

5. How did ornithologists justify saving songbirds?
6. Does Leopold believe the government is the best method for conservation?

The Land Pyramid

1. Create a Land Pyramid using the following: bear, birds, insects, plants, rodents, soil
2. How has evolution affected food chains?
3. What are the three basic ideas of land as an energy circuit?
4. Describe land health.
5. How does “organic farming” fit into the A-B cleavage?

Conservation Esthetic

1. What is the pyramid of banalities?

2. What is the parallel drawn between the duck hunter and the opera singer?

3. What physical objects will outdoorsmen seek, find, capture, and carry away?

4. What is the need for the creative part of recreational engineering?

5. Complete the quote: "Recreational development is a job not of building roads into lovely country, but of building"