

Name:

Date:

Using the North America Continent Map

1. Locate the cities named below (8 pts)

2. Estimate the distance **in miles** from: (7pts total)

Islip, NY to Morehead City, NC

Morehead City, NC to New Orleans, LA

New Orleans, LA to Telchac Puerto, Mexico

Telchac Puerto, Mexico to Belize City, Belize

Belize City, Belize to Houston, TX

Houston, TX to Key West, FL

Key West, FL to Brooklyn, NY

3. Calculate Total Estimated Mileage (1 pt)

4. Calculate Total Estimated Distance in Kilometers (2 pts)

(To convert miles to kilometers you need to multiply the miles by 1.61)

_____ miles X 1.61 = _____ kilometers

Using the North America Continent Map: **Answer Key**

1. Locate the cities named below. (8 pts)

2. Estimate the distance from: (7 pts for reasonable answers)

Islip, NY to Morehead City, NC _____ 500 miles

Morehead City, NC to New Orleans, LA _____ 1000 miles

New Orleans, LA to Telchac Puerto, Mexico _____ 700 miles

Telchac Puerto, Mexico to Belize City, Belize _____ 500 miles

Belize City, Belize to Houston, TX _____ 1100 miles

Houston, TX to Key West, FL _____ 1100 miles

Key West, FL to Brooklyn, NY _____ 1500 miles

3. Calculate Total Estimated Mileage (1 pt) _____ 6400 miles

4. Calculate Total Estimated Distance in Kilometers (2 pts)
(To convert miles to kilometers you need to multiply the miles by 1.61)

_____ 6400 _____ miles X 1.61 = _____ 10304 _____ kilometers

Environmental Affairs in New York State: An Historical Overview

In 1970, New Yorkers disposed of their garbage in two ways: burying it in landfills or burning it in incinerators. Most of the landfills were small and leaky, and most of the incinerators were backyard barrels or apartment smokestacks.

In 1976, a federal act required all states to draw up plans for the disposal of their solid waste. In 1977, the first New York state laws were passed to ensure landfill security and monitor water pollution. These laws increased the cost of operating landfills, and the number of landfills decreased. Therefore, more of the state's garbage was trucked to large regional dumps that served many states.

In 1982, after a statewide lobbying campaign by New York environmental groups, a "bottle bill" was passed requiring a five-cent deposit on all beer and soda cans sold in the state. But issuing laws and writing plans are not the same as causing change. New York State was shamed in 1987, when the garbage barge Mobro from Islip, Long Island, spent 156 days at sea and three months at harbor, fully loaded with rotting cargo that no one would take.

In 1989, New York City passed a law requiring residents to separate recyclable materials from their household trash. However, city trash-collecting systems have been slow to react, so citizen groups have been leading the way. For example, in the early 1990s a nonprofit group called WE CAN collected recyclable materials from Manhattan apartment buildings, offices, and schools, with the proceeds supporting the homeless.

Nationally, the amount of material kept out of landfills and incinerators by recycling increased 67 percent between 1990 and 1996 or from 34 million to 57 million tons. [112] Recycling means changing individual's behavior. Changing people's behaviors results in fewer landfills. Tompkins County was able to cancel a planned new landfill because of its new policy, and switch to a regional dump instead.

New York had planned to build a large garbage incinerator at the Brooklyn Navy Yard that would burn more than 3,000 tons of garbage a day, plus four more in other city boroughs. None of these were built. The City still produced 12 million tons of garbage a year in the late 1990s, but most of it went to a huge incinerator in Bridgeport, Connecticut or a regional landfill in West Virginia.

As more and more urban garbage was shipped to large incinerators and rural landfills, new problems emerged. One issue was transfer stations where the garbage is moved to rail cars and tractor-trailers. Low-income neighborhoods are the most common sites for these stations. Neighborhood groups have succeeded in blocking proposed transfer stations in their neighborhoods.

Adapted from: **Environmental Affairs in New York State: An Historical Overview** by Brad Edmondson For the New York State Archives
www.archives.nysed.gov/a/research/res_topics_env_hist_machine_waste.shtml

Name _____

Environmental Affairs in New York State: An Historical Overview

Cause and Effect Analysis

Cause(s)	Effect(s)
Disposal of garbage in New York City in 1970	1. 2.
	1. Increased cost of landfills 2. decreased the number of landfills 3. more garbage is sent to regional landfills
After lobbying efforts by NY environmental groups in 1982 who want to reduce waste in landfills	
	Money for homeless
Changing individual's behaviors	
	Garbage sent to large incinerator in CT or landfill in WV

Environmental Affairs in New York State: An Historical Overview

Cause and Effect Analysis **Answer Key**

Cause(s)	Effect(s)
Disposal of garbage in New York City in 1970	1. Landfills were leaky 2. Incinerators were in backyards or apartment buildings
1977 NY creates rules for landfills	1. Increased cost of landfills 2. decreased the number of landfills 3. more garbage is sent to regional landfills
After lobbying efforts by NY environmental groups in 1982 who want to reduce waste in landfills	Bottle bill passed
WE CAN citizens group collected recyclables and sell them	Money for homeless
Changing individual's behaviors	Less landfills or Tompkins county cancelled its landfill
New York City planned to build a large incinerator plus four more in other city boroughs	Garbage sent to large incinerator in CT or landfill in WV