

Florida Changes Fast

Trace how new tools and systems changed life in Florida.

SS.4.A.4.1 "Explain the effects of technological advances on Florida."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each technological advance, circle an effect it caused, and write the same number by each matching pair.

Tools That Changed Florida

- ① In the late 1800s, new railroad tracks reached many parts of Florida. Trains carried visitors south more quickly than wagons or boats could. They also moved oranges, vegetables, and other crops to northern markets before the food spoiled. Towns grew near stations because hotels, stores, and jobs were needed for travelers and trade each day.
- ② In the 1900s, electricity changed daily life and work in Florida. Electric pumps helped farmers move water to fields during dry times. Later, air conditioning cooled homes, schools, offices, and stores. People could work and shop more comfortably in hot weather, and more people chose to live in Florida year-round rather than only visiting in winter.
- ③ Modern technology continues to affect Florida. Satellites and computers help forecasters track hurricanes and share warnings quickly. Better forecasts give families time to prepare or leave dangerous areas. New medical equipment and communication tools also support jobs in hospitals and businesses. Technology can bring growth, but Floridians must use it wisely during emergencies such as hurricanes.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What effects did railroads have on Florida crops and towns?

2 Explain two effects air conditioning had on life in Florida.

3 Why could better hurricane forecasts make Florida safer?

4 How did electric pumps change what farmers could do during dry times?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose a technological advance not named in the passage that could affect Florida. Write three sentences that name it and explain two effects, including one benefit and one challenge.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each technological advance, circle an effect it caused, and write the same number by each matching pair. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What effects did railroads have on Florida crops and towns?	Railroads moved crops to northern markets before they spoiled. Towns grew near stations because travelers and trade created a need for hotels, stores, and jobs.
2	Explain two effects air conditioning had on life in Florida.	Air conditioning made homes, schools, offices, and stores cooler. It helped people work and shop more comfortably, and it helped more people live in Florida year-round.
3	Why could better hurricane forecasts make Florida safer?	Better forecasts give families time to prepare or leave dangerous areas before a hurricane.
4	How did electric pumps change what farmers could do during dry times?	Electric pumps helped farmers move water to their fields during dry times.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Florida farms could use a water-saving irrigation system that sends only the needed water to each plant. Farmers could grow crops with less water during dry months, and nearby lakes could keep more water. Buying and fixing the system might cost farmers money.

Accept answers that accurately connect a technological advance to two reasonable effects on Florida, including a benefit and a challenge. The technology must not be one named in the passage.