

Florida Changes Today

Read how events and growth have shaped contemporary Florida.

SS.4.A.8 "Contemporary Florida into the 21st Century"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three events or changes that affected Florida. Circle one effect of each change to show how Florida has changed in recent years.

Florida in Recent Years

- ① Since 2000, Florida has continued to change as more people have moved to the state. Families and retirees have come for jobs, warm weather, and communities near beaches or cities. New residents need homes, schools, roads, water, and health care. Population growth has increased building and traffic in many places. It has also changed the work local governments must do.
- ② In 2004 and 2005, hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan, Jeanne, and Wilma affected Florida. These storms damaged homes, roads, and power lines. People prepared with supplies, listened to warnings, and helped neighbors recover. After storms, communities rebuilt, but leaders also considered stronger building rules and plans for emergencies. These choices could make communities safer when later storms arrived.
- ③ Florida's economy includes tourism, farming, trade, health care, and technology. In 2011, the final space shuttle mission lifted off from Kennedy Space Center. The end of the shuttle program changed some space-related jobs, yet private companies and NASA continued launching rockets from Florida. Today, Floridians make choices about growth, jobs, safety, and protecting beaches, wetlands, and wildlife.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What needs did new Florida residents create?

2 How did the hurricanes of 2004 and 2005 affect Florida communities?

3 What changed after the space shuttle program ended, and what continued in Florida?

4 Name two issues Floridians consider when making choices about the state's future.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine that many new families move to your town. Write three sentences that name one new need, one action local leaders could take, and one effect that action could have.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline three events or changes that affected Florida. Circle one effect of each change to show how Florida has changed in recent years. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What needs did new Florida residents create?	They created needs for homes, schools, roads, water, and health care.
2	How did the hurricanes of 2004 and 2005 affect Florida communities?	They damaged homes, roads, and power lines. Communities rebuilt and considered stronger building rules and emergency plans.
3	What changed after the space shuttle program ended, and what continued in Florida?	Some space-related jobs changed, but private companies and NASA continued launching rockets from Florida.
4	Name two issues Floridians consider when making choices about the state's future.	Accept any two: growth, jobs, safety, or protecting beaches, wetlands, and wildlife.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

My town would need another school because more children would live there. Leaders could build a school near new neighborhoods and add a bus route. This action could reduce crowded classrooms and help students get to school safely.

Accept answers that clearly connect population growth to a community need, a reasonable action by local leaders, and a possible effect. Students may choose needs and actions other than those in the sample.