

Omnivore's Dilemma Questions

Answer on a separate sheet of paper in complete sentences (unless making a list or completing a chart). The answer may also be found on pages following the number at the beginning of the question.

Preface

p4. How do we know that what we eat has a greater impact on the environment than what car we drive or how we heat our homes?

p5. How do we know that people's changing food choices in the past ten years have made a difference?

Introduction

p 7,8. Cite specific details from the text to describe the potato farm.

p 9. What is a feedlot? How does Pollan describe it?

p10. What is the dilemma that we omnivores face?

p12. List the four food chains.

p.13. Why is this section called "The Pleasures of Eating"? In other words, what is the point of this book?

One

p18. Why does the author say in bold print "It's all corn"? List ten examples from p 18-20.

p25. List eight uses for corn that would explain why corn became so popular among the early European settlers in America?

p26. Map. a) When did corn (or teosinte) spread to South America? b) When did corn spread to South Africa? c) What did traders purchase with corn in West Africa?

Two

p31. Contrast the typical Iowa farm in 1919 with the Naylor farm now.

	Typical 1919 farm	Naylor farm now
crops		
Animals		
customers		
One farmer fed __ people		

p35. [Connect] Think of the story of Frankenstein. Tell why this section is called Frankenseeds.

p38. Why were animals taken off farms and put into feedlots?

List four terms and their definitions, which are important for understanding this chapter.

Three

- p41. What is the connection between bombs and fertilizer?
- p42. List three ways that the modern farm is like a factory.
- p45. What is the effect of nitrogen pollution in the Gulf of Mexico?
- p47. Why are so many farmers going bankrupt?
- p50. What is the law of supply and demand?

Four

- p52. What is the author's reaction at the sight of so much corn rotting on the ground?
- p53. What is a commodity?

Five

What is "a great eating camp" (58); "an animal city" (61); "a beef factory" (69)?

- p61. What is a CAFO? What are two major problems with CAFO's?
- p63. Explain the partnership between cows and grass. How do they help each other?
- p68. Claim: Cows are like cannibals. What details on p. 68 & 69 could support this claim?
- p71. What is the name of the good kinds of fat found in grass-fed cattle?
- p73. Where are e-coli bacteria found? What kind of cattle do not have e-coli?

Six

- p82. Powdered sugar and detergent both come from what kind of corn product? List three products we get from the germ of the corn.
- p88. Give three examples of **adding value** to a food.

Seven

- p93. According to Pollan what is causing the "epidemic of obesity"?
- p95. "Drop the price per ounce, but sell a lot more ounces." This idea is used to support what claim?
- p99. What types of foods are the cheapest foods to buy?

Eight

- p105. Animals use their instinct to tell them what to eat, but what must humans use?
- p106. Why is disgust an important feeling for our survival?
- p114. What is "eating alone together"? Fill in the blank as you copy these sentences:
_____ **is not just fuel. It's about family and friends and community.**

Nine

- p119. Why does Isaac say "duh" to his father?
- p123. How many gallons of oil did it take to grow and process the Pollans' meal?
- p 126. Complete the analogy real food : fast food :: satisfied : _____