

Name: _____

Fresh-The Movie Guiding Questions

1. Finish the quote: "Americans only fear one thing, _____."
2. The chicken farm owned by Mr & Mrs. Fox is described as an industrial farm. What specific practices did you see or hear described that fit the industrial label?
3. Michael Pollan describes our agricultural system as unsustainable. Why is it unsustainable?
4. What is monoculture? Does nature have monocultures? What the downside to growing monocultures?
5. Why is E. Coli 157:H7, the bacteria that causes food poisoning, so much more prevalent in feed lots?
6. Why is manure in the ponds near the feedlots unsuitable for fertilizing crops? Why is it considered so toxic?
7. What two aspects of the lives of wild herbivores (bison, deer, etc) is absent in industrialized farming?
8. What is the purpose of regularly moving cowherds from one paddock to another?
9. Why are the chickens allowed to roam freely through the fields that the cows recently grazed?
10. What issue did Russ Kreumer have on his hog farm after shifting to a more industrialized approach?
11. How did the practice of adding antibiotics to the pigs' feed affect the strain of strep bacteria that Russ contracted?
12. Compare the farrowing (birthing) conditions of the sustainable hog farm to an industrialized farm.
13. Why is it a common practice to trim or cut off pigs' tails?

14. Joel claims to receive about \$3000 per acre of income, which his neighbor only receives \$150 an acre from raising beef cattle. What are all the income streams that Joel gets off his land?
15. Has the nutritional quality of crops grown in the 1950s, as compared to today, increased or decreased? Why?
16. Michael Pollan explains that food from the grocery store may be cheap, but it has hidden costs that are paid elsewhere. Give two examples of these hidden costs.
17. Explain the concept of a food desert.
18. Describe two strategies used by urban farmers to maximize their production in very limited space.
19. The corn and soybean farmers sell their crops for much less than it actually costs to produce them. How are they able to make a living this way?
20. Explain how farmers have become dependent on a few large companies to make a living.
21. What is the danger of having a limited number of sources within the food supply?