

Final Assessment: Analysis of Okavango Delta

Should the government of Namibia proceed with construction of the Okavango River pipeline?

Overview

For this final assessment, you will spend several days gathering information on your own about Africa and the Okavango Delta region. You will need to decide whether the controversial pipeline should be built from the Delta to Namibia. You will use a variety of types of sources to obtain evidence to make and support your decision. Overall you should have a strong picture of what the area of the Okavango Delta looks like and how the proposed pipeline will impact this ecosystem as well as the surrounding ecosystems.

Prep Work

Before you begin writing this paper, you will need to complete ALL of the following parts:

Part 1: Watch a portion of a National Geographic Video filmed in the Okavango delta region and take notes in your class notebook or your lab notebook.

Part 2: Conduct independent on-line research. You will need to find *at least 2 different* sources for information. Notes, with citations should be recorded in your class notebook or your lab notebook.

Part 3: Conduct *at least 2 tests* (physical, chemical, or both) to determine the soil profile of the area. You may use your Lab 26 packet for guidance. All data should be recorded in your lab notebook.

Part 4: Analyze primary source data including: climate, biota, and organism population. See sheet entitled “ Primary Source Data.” All work will be completed in your lab notebook.

Writing the Paper

Once you have completed your research, you will write a persuasive essay answering the question “Should the government of Namibia proceed with construction of the Okavango River pipeline? Why or why not?” You will need to use evidence from **ALL** of the 4 research tasks listed above.

To get you started thinking about this decision, please consider some of the following questions.

- What type of world ecosystem do you think the Okavango Delta is representative of? Why do you think this?
- What do you think the Okavango Delta region will look like in 25 years? 50 years? 100 years? Why do you think this?

Grading

Your final essay will be assessed based on the Final Assessment rubric. This rubric is meant to mirror the rubric you will use to write your Exhibition paper this year.