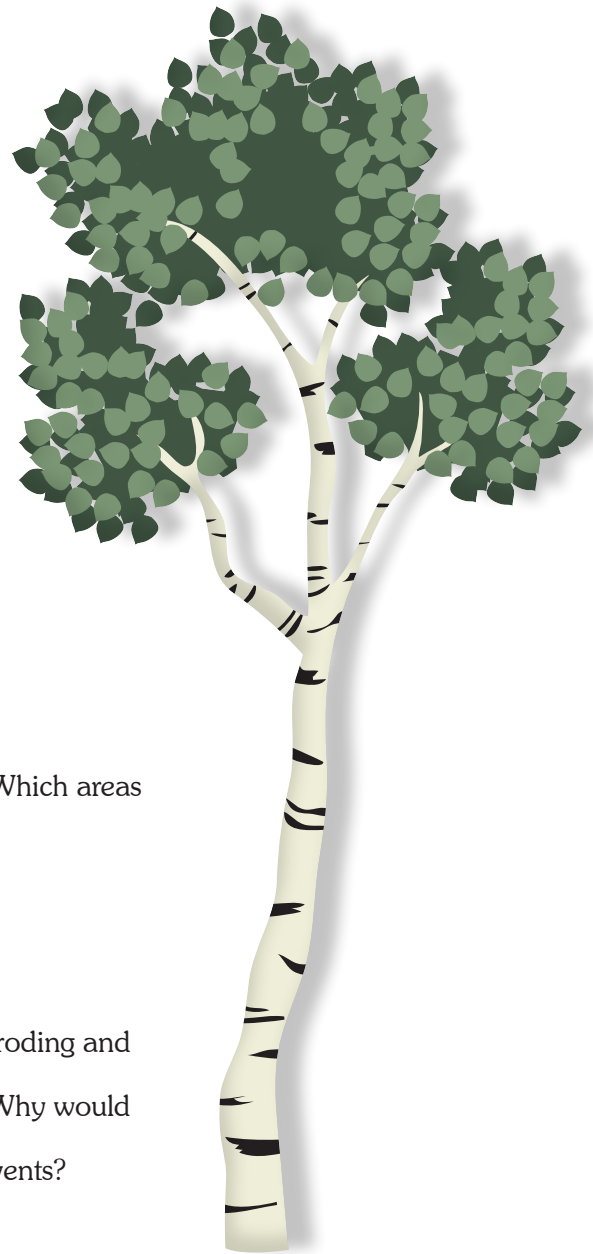


## Utah Rangelands Discussion

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How can good rangeland management help Utah's overall economy?
2. How has rangeland management improved from the past? How can it be improved in the future, based on the information presented?
3. Read about public lands on pages 16 and 17 in the textbook *The Utah Journey*. Utah's public land is highly valued in Utah culture and is used for many different purposes. Besides grazing, what other uses can you name? How might some of these activities lead to conflict, and what can be done to minimize conflict and make sure that everyone can use the land?
4. Compare the GoogleEarth map to the physical map of Utah on page 25 of *The Utah Journey*. What are the benefits and drawbacks of each map? Give an example of how you would use each map. Look again at the rangeland photos. Do they change your understanding of each map? Explain your answer.
5. What do the photos of Utah's rangeland have in common? Which areas do you think make the best land for grazing? Why?
6. Careful range management can help prevent topsoils from eroding and can minimize the risk of mud slides and excessive flooding. Why would rangeland management influence these naturally occurring events?



## Utah Rangelands Discussion—Answers

1. How can good rangeland management help Utah's overall economy? (*better rangeland management means higher carrying capacity, which leads to more cattle to sell and provides jobs in the Forest Service and on ranches*)
2. How has rangeland management improved from the past? How can it be improved in the future, based on the information presented? (*closer management of grazing has reduced erosion, and monitoring and observation of rangeland health has improved, but a deeper understanding of the complex connections between fire, grazing, and the composition of plant communities would improve future management*)
3. Read about public land on pages 16 and 17 in the seventh grade textbook *The Utah Journey*. Utah's public land is highly valued in Utah culture, and is used for many different purposes. Besides grazing, what other uses can you name? (*wood production, water quality, wildlife, recreation, aesthetics, or clean air*) How might some of these activities lead to conflict, and what can be done to minimize conflict and make sure that everyone can use the land? (*share the land, minimize impact, make sure everyone has a chance to use the land, etc.*)
4. Compare the GoogleEarth map to the physical map of Utah on page 25 of *The Utah Journey*. What are the benefits and drawbacks of each map? (*GoogleEarth doesn't show elevations, can show computer-generated images that are inaccurate, but can provide a detailed view of the landscape; physical map doesn't provide much detail on the area, doesn't show what the landscape is really like, but gives a good overview in a few glances*) Give an example of how you would use each map. Look again at the rangeland photos. Do they change your understanding of each map? Explain your answer. (*add depth of understanding of landscapes in different areas, shows inaccuracies in GoogleEarth, provides much more detail of a small area*)
5. What do the photos of Utah's rangeland have in common? (*types of plants, many areas of arid land*) Which areas do you think make the best land for grazing? Why? (*riparian areas are high in forage and provide good water sources, aspen forests also provide plenty of forage*)
6. Careful range management can help prevent topsoils from eroding, and can minimize the risk of mud slides and excessive flooding. Why would rangeland management influence these naturally occurring events? (*grass, forbs, and other grazing plants help hold the soil in place so water can't wash it away*)