

“A Strange Project—for a Botanical Gardens” ANSWER Sheet

1. Carp were introduced to North America because

- a) **one carp could provide as much food as one sheep or goat.**
- b) breeding stock accidentally spilled into streams and lakes.
- c) they are as ornamental as goldfish.
- d) all of the above options are correct.

2. Carp have become a threat to North American wetlands because

- a) they have a great reproductive ability.
- b) they are not fished enough.
- c) they destroy aquatic plants.
- d) **all of the above options are correct.**

3. If Cootes Paradise Marsh was devoid of plants, which species also suffered?

- a) Duckfood
- b) Carp
- c) **Waterbirds**
- d) Rushes

4. Explain why the pound net system did not catch carp.

The pound net did not catch carp because carp would not lead along the net to the trap or pound. Instead they turned back and headed back into the Bay.

5. Why is the article titled “A Strange Project—for a Botanical Garden”?

The article is titled “A Strange Project—for a Botanical Garden” because botanical gardens protect and add to plant life. RBG has to exclude carp in order to protect aquatic plants, which is not what people usually expect botanical gardens to need to do.

6. Using information from the article, write a paragraph to persuade Royal Botanical Gardens to install a selective weir across the Desjardins Canal.

Paragraphs could include an introductory/topic sentence and a concluding sentence and 2-3 reasons on why a weir is needed or why it would work:

- *Reasons to keep carp out:*
 - *Carp need to be excluded from the marsh to protect the aquatic plants*
 - *Aquatic plants need to be protected for migratory water birds*
- *Reasons to use a weir:*
 - *It will exclude large carp*
 - *It will allow game and native fish to pass through*
 - *Boats can pass over it without damage*
 - *It does not require fishermen*
 - *It is more permanent than a seine net*