

Mr. Powner
Earth Systems

Video: Surviving the Dust Bowl

After watching the PBS movie “Surviving the Dust Bowl,” write a 5-paragraph essay answering only **ONE** of the following two questions. (See your English teacher for visual guides to forming 5-paragraph essays). This assignment is important and an important part of this term’s grade, don’t skip it.

1. Humans did not cause the 10-year drought (no rain) during the 1930s. Natural wet and dry cycles happen in long-term weather patterns (climate zones). Still, how does it make you feel that human activity caused the massive erosion of soil in the Great Plains area of the US during that time period?
2. Numerous humans moved into the Great Plains area of the US to pursue the promises of wealth and prosperity. Irresponsible farming techniques exposed the soil to the worst erosion in recorded history, causing in the process enormous human suffering. Knowing that human greed and group ignorance of Earth systems were to blame, what does this make you want to do?