

Name _____

Walden by Henry David Thoreau

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Nature profoundly influenced Thoreau's experience at Walden Pond, inspiring him to appreciate the beauty and simplicity of the natural world. It shaped his philosophy and provided the backdrop for his reflections on the human connection to nature.
2. Thoreau practiced self-reliance by living independently at Walden Pond, growing his own food, and relying on his own skills. He believed in trusting one's instincts and not being overly dependent on societal norms.
3. Thoreau's ideas about simplicity and self-reliance are still relevant today, as they encourage individuals to live intentionally, reduce clutter in their lives, and prioritize what truly matters.
4. The concept of civil disobedience in "Walden" highlights the moral responsibility of individuals to resist unjust laws. This idea can be applied in advocating for social change by peacefully challenging oppressive or discriminatory policies and practices.

