

Grade 6 ELA CHOICE BOARD

Text: “Roosters in Key West”

You **must** choose **3** items to complete on this tick-tack-toe board either **vertically** or **diagonally**.

<p>20 points</p> <p>6L4 Use the Frayer model for the word: souvenirs My Definition, Synonym, Antonym, Sentence</p>	<p>20 points</p> <p>RI6 What is the author’s purpose for writing this text?</p>	<p>20 points</p> <p>6RI2 What word is repeating in the text? What is the topic of the text?</p>
<p>30 points</p> <p>6RI8 Use the R.A.C.E. Strategy to answer this question: What is the argument presented in paragraph 1?</p>	<p>30 points</p> <p>6RI6 What is the author’s point of view of the text? Give 2 pieces of textual evidence.</p>	<p>30 points</p> <p>6RI8 What is the author’s claim in the text? Write at least 2 pieces of evidence.</p>
<p>50 points</p> <p>6W1 Write a paragraph about explaining why people should/shouldn’t continue to explore the earth?</p>	<p>50 points</p> <p>6W1 Write a thesis statement for the following topic: Should Students in Middle School Be Required to Wear Uniforms?</p>	<p>50 points</p> <p>6RI2 Write an objective summary for the text without your personal opinion or judgments.</p>





ROOSTERS in KEY WEST



By Halie Evans

Sometimes, unexpected consequences occur when you least expect it. One person's decision to do something can spur a change that can affect large areas of people. This is the case in Key West, Florida, where roosters and chickens run free. But that might not be what is best for the island and its people. Key West should not allow fowl to roam free on the island. The overpopulation of the birds puts both the birds and humans in harm's way, and they also disturb the natural beauty of the island.

Key West

Key West is the furthest point in southern Florida, and it is located under 100 miles from Cuba. The atmosphere is laid back. During the winter months, it is loaded with tourists. The original Native Americans who first lived there were the Calusa. The Europeans eventually took over the land, followed by American settlers. Key West was occupied by the US Navy as a submarine base during the 1940s. It is still used by the military today.

Roosters and Chickens

When people travel around Key West, they notice signs that read "Key West Chickens" in many tourist shops. People can buy a variety of souvenirs that reflect the local bird. But the fowl does more than sell souvenirs, they disrupt the natural setting of the island. Mother chickens will guide their babies all around town. Male chickens (or roosters) proudly strut in front of cars and bicycles without fear. They are loud, especially during the morning hours, as they *cock-a-doodle-doo* their way around town.

How They Got to Florida

These wild birds were first brought to Key West by settlers in America. People raised fowl and other animals for meat and eggs. People from Cuba brought additional chickens with them when they moved to Key West. Some owners released these chickens. Thus, chickens and roosters now freely roam the streets.

Wildlife Assistance

Residents in Key West started complaining about the overpopulation of this bird. The species made a mess in yards. Birds would "move in" to a person's yard space or roof. Home owners started killing the birds to control the population. The Key West Wildlife Center offered another alternative in 2009. The wildlife center rescues feral (or wild) chickens in the city and takes care of them. Many of the birds are hit by cars when tourists are not aware of the chicken population. The wildlife center nurses the birds back to health. People around the city now use humane traps to catch these birds when the population gets too high. The birds then become new residents of the wildlife center. Some of the birds find homes in other parts of Florida. People place them in areas where they have free range to travel. The wildlife center says that they rehabilitate over 1,400 of these birds every year.



It is common for roosters and chickens to travel wherever they want to in Key West, including in the middle of the street.