

Up Close

Pumped Up

Read the article on pages 8-11 closely, then answer each question below. Write at least two to five sentences for each response, using evidence from the text to support your answers. Use a separate sheet of paper if you need more space.

1. Analyze the author's purpose in the section under the heading "U.S. Oil Boom."

2. Explain why demand for oil has declined recently.

3. According to the article, why is fracking a controversial technology? Analyze two points of view about fracking outlined in the article and describe your own stance.

4. Evaluate the author's claim that "the plummeting price of oil isn't all good news." Cite details that the author uses to support this claim, and explain why you agree or disagree.

5. In the article, the journalist John Schwartz is quoted as saying, "For every dollar off the cost of a barrel of oil, Americans seem to lose an I.Q. point." Explain what you think Schwartz means.

6. Examine the graph and charts on p. 11 of the article. How does each one support the article?
