OIL PIPELINE

Carole Lindstrom talks of "a black snake that will destroy the land". This is refering to a dreaming story but it also refers to the Oil Pipe Line. Below is an information passage on oil piplines and why they are bad for the environment. Read the passage and then answer the related questions.

Oil pipelines have been used in America since the 1860s. They are used for long distance transportation of oil. Oil pipelines are made from steel or plastic tubes which are usually buried. Pipelines are a cheap method for transporting oil and are considered safer for humans than road or rail.

In the United States, 70% of crude oil is transported by pipeline. Unfortunately, these pipelines leak and can cause accidents. Since 1986 pipelines have spilled an average of 76,000 barrels per year or more than 3 million gallons of crude oil across America. Clean-up of pipeline spills are only partially successful, leaving tens of thousands of barrels of oil on the land or in the water.

1. When were oil pipelines first introduced to America?

2. Why are oil pipelines used?

3. What are oil pipelines made of?

4. How much is 3 million gallons in litres?

5. Why are oil pipelines bad?

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