Indiana on the Home Front

Trace how wartime contributions changed life in Indiana.

IS.1.16 "Identify and analyze the social, cultural, and economic impacts of WWI on Indiana as well as Indiana's contributions to the war effort."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three different Indiana contributions to the war and circle one impact of each on people in Indiana. Write the same number beside each contribution and its matching impact to show the connection.

A War Felt at Home

1. In 1917, when the United States entered World War I, Indiana's factories were part of a national industrial network. In South Bend, Studebaker made military wagons and other vehicles; workers turned industrial skill toward wartime transportation. In Gary, steel production helped supply industries that built war materials. These orders created jobs and increased demand for labor. Yet a busy factory floor had costs: long shifts and pressure to produce quickly shaped workers' daily lives. Indiana's contribution was more than a list of products. Wartime production changed how people earned money and how communities organized their days.

2. On farms across Indiana, families raised crops and livestock as the nation tried to feed soldiers and civilians at home and abroad. Federal campaigns urged Americans to conserve food, so some households changed what they cooked and ate. Residents also bought Liberty Bonds, loans to the federal government that helped pay for the war. Those purchases connected personal savings to national spending, although families had less money available for other needs. Women volunteered with the Red Cross, sewing supplies and organizing relief efforts. This work brought many women into public activities, even as they continued work at home or in paid jobs.

3. Indiana sent soldiers into military service, leaving some households to manage without a family member's labor or income. At the same time, wartime demand for workers drew some Black migrants from the South to industrial cities such as Gary. New jobs offered opportunity, but Black residents still faced discrimination in housing and employment. The war also affected culture. Suspicion of German Americans led some communities to discourage public use of German, even though speaking a language did not show disloyalty. When the fighting stopped with the 1918 armistice, changes in work, community life, and attitudes did not instantly disappear.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Indiana's factory contributions affect both jobs and workers' daily lives?

2. How were Indiana farms' contributions and changes in household meals connected to the war effort?

3. What did buying Liberty Bonds contribute to the war effort, and what economic trade-off did families face?

4. How could Red Cross volunteering and suspicion of German speakers change community life in different ways?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write an 80- to 100-word museum label about a fictional Indiana household during the war. Include two contributions from the passage, explain one economic impact and one social or cultural impact, and show how the impacts could overlap.

Indiana on the Home Front

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three different Indiana contributions to the war and circle one impact of each on people in Indiana. Write the same number beside each contribution and its matching impact to show the connection. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Indiana's factory contributions affect both jobs and workers' daily lives?	**Orders for vehicles and steel created jobs and demand for labor, while long shifts and pressure to produce shaped workers' days.**
2	How were Indiana farms' contributions and changes in household meals connected to the war effort?	**Farm families raised food as the nation worked to feed soldiers and civilians. Conservation campaigns also led some households to change what they cooked and ate.**
3	What did buying Liberty Bonds contribute to the war effort, and what economic trade-off did families face?	**Bond purchases lent money to the federal government to help pay for the war, but left families with less money for other needs.**
4	How could Red Cross volunteering and suspicion of German speakers change community life in different ways?	**Red Cross work brought many women into public activities, while suspicion led some communities to discourage public use of German.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Imagine a household in South Bend in 1917. One adult works at Studebaker, helping make military vehicles, while a woman in the household volunteers with the Red Cross to organize relief. The factory job brings wages, but wartime orders can also mean long shifts. Red Cross work brings her into public service while she still handles responsibilities at home. These changes overlap: the family's schedule must make room for both factory hours and volunteer work. Their contributions support the war, but the benefits and burdens are shared unevenly at home.

Accept other passage-supported links between contributions and impacts. For the museum label, check for two specific contributions, distinct economic and social or cultural impacts, and a clear explanation of how those impacts overlap.