Hoosier Culture in Motion

Trace how work, movement, and shared activities changed Indiana.

IS.5.1 "Describe the development of Hoosier culture after the pioneer era settled the land."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB In each paragraph, underline one change in Hoosier culture and circle the development that helped cause it. Number your three cause-and-change pairs in time order.

After the Farms Were Settled

1 After pioneer families had established farms across Indiana, Hoosier life did not stay fixed. In the mid-1800s, canals and then railroads connected farm communities to distant buyers. Farmers could sell more than their neighbors needed, while towns grew around depots, mills, and stores. Local newspapers carried news between scattered households. Churches and schools became regular gathering places, shaping shared habits as well as daily schedules. A family that once depended mainly on nearby farms could now buy goods made elsewhere and hear ideas from beyond its county. These links helped turn separate settlements into a more connected state.

2 By the early 1900s, factories and new arrivals were changing that connected state. U.S. Steel founded Gary in 1906 near Lake Michigan, where rail lines and ships could move raw materials and finished steel. Immigrants from Europe and Black Americans moving north from the South joined Indiana's industrial workforce. They built neighborhoods, religious communities, and new cultural spaces while facing discrimination. In Indianapolis, Indiana Avenue became a center of Black music and business. Industry did more than create jobs: it brought people with different experiences together, making Hoosier culture more urban and varied than farm life alone.

3 Shared activities also gave Hoosiers ways to imagine themselves as one community. Basketball, introduced in Indiana in the 1890s, spread through schools and small towns; games made local teams a source of pride. The Indianapolis 500, first held in 1911, drew attention to the state's growing connection to cars and racing. Yet a common state identity did not erase divisions. The Ku Klux Klan gained political power in Indiana during the 1920s and targeted people it considered outsiders. Hoosier culture grew through transportation, work, migration, and recreation, but debates over who belonged remained part of its history.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did canals and railroads change both farm work and community life in Indiana?

2. How did industrial jobs and migration make Hoosier culture more varied?

3. How did basketball and the Indianapolis 500 help shape a shared Hoosier identity?

4. How does the Klan's rise complicate the passage's account of a growing shared Hoosier identity?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a six-sentence museum label explaining how two developments from different paragraphs changed Hoosier culture after the pioneer era. Connect those changes, and explain why a growing shared identity did not mean equal belonging.

ANSWER KEY

Hoosier Culture in Motion

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

In each paragraph, underline one change in Hoosier culture and circle the development that helped cause it. Number your three cause-and-change pairs in time order. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did canals and railroads change both farm work and community life in Indiana?	**They let farmers sell to distant buyers and helped towns grow around depots, mills, and stores, connecting once-separate settlements.**
2	How did industrial jobs and migration make Hoosier culture more varied?	**Factories drew European immigrants and Black Americans from the South, who built neighborhoods, religious communities, and cultural spaces.**
3	How did basketball and the Indianapolis 500 help shape a shared Hoosier identity?	**Basketball gave towns pride in local teams, while the Indianapolis 500 drew attention to Indiana's connection to cars and racing.**
4	How does the Klan's rise complicate the passage's account of a growing shared Hoosier identity?	**Although shared activities brought Hoosiers together, the Klan gained political power and targeted people it considered outsiders. Not everyone was welcomed into that identity.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Indiana's culture changed when new routes linked farms to distant markets and factories drew workers into growing cities. Railroads helped farm towns trade goods and ideas beyond their counties, making separate settlements feel more connected. Decades later, Gary's steel industry drew European immigrants and Black Americans from the South into urban workplaces and neighborhoods. These changes made Hoosier life more varied, not just more connected. Some newcomers built cultural spaces, including the music and businesses of Indianapolis's Indiana Avenue. Yet the Ku Klux Klan's political power in the 1920s showed that not everyone was welcomed into a shared state identity.

Accept other passage-supported cause-and-change pairs for the marking job. For the museum label, look for two developments from different paragraphs, an explanation of how they connect, and a distinction between shared identity and equal belonging.