

Moving North

Trace why African Americans migrated to northern cities beginning in the 1890s.

4.7b "Beginning in the 1890s, large numbers of African Americans migrated to New York City and other northern cities to work in factories."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that pushed African Americans to leave the South, and circle details that pulled them toward northern cities.

A Search for New Opportunities

- ① In the 1890s, many African American families lived in the South. Life there was often unfair and dangerous. Segregation laws separated people by race, and Black citizens faced violence and unfair treatment. Many people also had few choices for well-paid work. These conditions pushed families to consider leaving their homes for places where they hoped life could be safer and fairer.
- ② Beginning in the 1890s, large numbers of African Americans migrated north. New York City and other northern cities had factories that needed workers. Railroads made long trips possible, although travel cost money and could be difficult. People hoped to earn wages in factories and other jobs. Moving from one place to another to live is called migration.
- ③ As new residents arrived, northern cities changed. African American communities grew, especially in Harlem in New York City. Neighbors created churches, businesses, newspapers, and clubs. Later, Harlem became known for the Harlem Renaissance, a time when Black writers, artists, and musicians shared new work. This cultural growth was one result of people bringing their skills, ideas, and traditions north.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What are two conditions that pushed many African Americans to consider leaving the South?

2 What job opportunity pulled many migrants toward northern cities?

3 Where did large numbers of African Americans migrate beginning in the 1890s, and what kind of work did they seek?

4 Name two ways growing African American communities changed northern cities.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Invent a family in the South that is considering a move to a northern city in the early 1900s. Write three sentences explaining why they may leave, what work they hope to find, and one way they could contribute to their new community.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that pushed African Americans to leave the South, and circle details that pulled them toward northern cities. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What are two conditions that pushed many African Americans to consider leaving the South?	They faced segregation, violence, and unfair treatment, and they had few choices for well-paid work.
2	What job opportunity pulled many migrants toward northern cities?	Northern factories needed workers, and migrants hoped to earn wages there.
3	Where did large numbers of African Americans migrate beginning in the 1890s, and what kind of work did they seek?	They migrated to New York City and other northern cities to work in factories.
4	Name two ways growing African American communities changed northern cities.	Answers include creating churches, businesses, newspapers, and clubs, and contributing writers, artists, and musicians during the Harlem Renaissance.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Johnson family may leave the South because unfair laws and few well-paid jobs make life hard. They plan to take a railroad to New York City and seek factory wages. In their new neighborhood, they could share traditions and support a local business.

Accept any passage-based push factor, pull factor, destination, and factory-work detail. For Your Turn, accept reasonable invented details if the response includes a push reason, factory or job opportunity, and a community contribution.