

Cities Draw Workers

Trace how industry, resources, and migration reshaped New York.

8.2a “Technological developments changed the modes of production, and access to natural resources facilitated increased industrialization. The demand for labor in urban industrial areas resulted in increased migration from rural areas and a...”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that show a cause of industrial or city growth. Number the effects that followed those causes, using the same number for each connected cause-and-effect chain.

Industry and Urban Growth

- ① In the late 1800s, factories used new machines and systems that made goods faster. Railroads carried coal, iron ore, and lumber to industrial centers, while steamships and rail lines moved finished products to buyers. Access to these natural resources helped businesses build steel mills, garment shops, and other factories. Production shifted from many small workshops to large workplaces where machines and wage workers produced goods in greater quantities for national markets often at lower cost.
- ② Factory owners needed many workers to run machines, load materials, and pack goods. Jobs in cities drew people from farms and small towns, where work could be seasonal or poorly paid. At the same time, immigrants arrived in the United States from Europe and other regions, seeking wages and opportunity. After it opened in 1892, many entered through Ellis Island in New York Harbor. From there, immigrants often traveled to city neighborhoods near jobs, relatives, and communities that shared their language or traditions.
- ③ These movements changed New York State. New York City, already the nation’s largest city, continued to grow, with crowded neighborhoods, busy docks, and expanding factories. Its port, transportation links, and variety of jobs attracted newcomers. Other New York cities also grew. Buffalo used its location on the Great Lakes and Erie Canal routes to handle grain and trade. Rochester developed industries such as flour milling and clothing production. As workers arrived, cities added housing, stores, schools, and services, but rapid growth also created overcrowding and pressure on sanitation.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did natural resources and transportation help factories increase production?

2 Which two groups moved into cities, and what drew each group there?

3 What features helped New York City attract newcomers and continue growing?

4 How did Buffalo and Rochester each connect to industrial growth?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write 4 or 5 sentences about an imagined family that moves to a New York city during this period. Explain where the family came from, what job or opportunity pulled them to the city, and one way their arrival changes the city.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that show a cause of industrial or city growth. Number the effects that followed those causes, using the same number for each connected cause-and-effect chain. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did natural resources and transportation help factories increase production?	Coal, iron ore, and lumber reached industrial centers by rail. Railroads and steamships also moved finished goods to buyers, helping large factories produce more goods.
2	Which two groups moved into cities, and what drew each group there?	People from farms and small towns moved for more reliable or better-paid work. Immigrants came from Europe and other regions seeking wages and opportunity, often joining relatives or communities near city jobs.
3	What features helped New York City attract newcomers and continue growing?	Its port, transportation links, and variety of jobs attracted newcomers.
4	How did Buffalo and Rochester each connect to industrial growth?	Buffalo used Great Lakes and Erie Canal routes for grain and trade. Rochester developed flour-milling and clothing industries.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A family left a rural farm because seasonal work did not provide steady wages. They traveled to Buffalo because jobs connected to trade and grain handling were available there. The city's transportation routes helped businesses bring in materials and send out goods. After the family arrived, they rented housing near other workers. More arriving families increased the need for stores, schools, and sanitation services.

Accept accurate cause-and-effect explanations that connect industrial jobs, resources, transportation, migration, and urban growth. For the open response, accept a historically plausible city, origin, pull factor, and city change supported by the passage.