A Growing City

Read census data alongside a later account of New York.

8.P.3.1 "Comprehend, evaluate, and synthesize textual sources to acquire and refine knowledge in the social studies. Paraphrase the main idea and cite evidence from primary and secondary sources..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail from the census table that shows change, circle one possible reason for that change in the passage, and number the sentence that explains what the sources cannot prove.

New York City, 1900 to 1920

(1) In 1898, five boroughs united as New York City. The U.S. census then counted the city's residents every ten years. Census records are primary sources because workers collected information from households at the time. The table gives the city's population in three censuses, with the same five boroughs included each time.

NEW YORK CITY POPULATION, U.S. CENSUS

Census year	Residents
1900	3,437,202
1910	4,766,883
1920	5,620,048

(2) A city history written later explains that factories, shops, and construction offered work in New York during the early 1900s. Many people also arrived from other countries through nearby Ellis Island. This history is a secondary source: it uses earlier records to explain the past, rather than reporting a household's answers as they were collected.

(3) The census numbers show growth, but they do not say why each person moved. The city history offers possible reasons for that growth, not a complete explanation for every new resident. Read the two sources together: the counts establish how much the population changed, while the later account suggests some forces behind the change.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Paraphrase the later city history's main idea about why New York grew. Include one detail from that account.

2. Use two values from the census table to describe how New York's population changed.

3. Which source is primary, and which is secondary? Explain how each source was created.

4. Summarize what the two sources establish about the city's growth and what they leave uncertain. Do not add your opinion.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A visitor says, "All of New York's population growth from 1900 to 1920 came from immigration." Write a 3- to 4-sentence museum caption responding to the claim. Use numbers from the census table, a detail from the later city history, and a limit on what the sources prove; identify each source.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 8 · 8.P.3.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one detail from the census table that shows change, circle one possible reason for that change in the passage, and number the sentence that explains what the sources cannot prove. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Paraphrase the later city history's main idea about why New York grew. Include one detail from that account.	**The later history suggests that work and immigration helped New York grow. It says factories, shops, and construction offered jobs.**
2	Use two values from the census table to describe how New York's population changed.	**The population rose from 3,437,202 in 1900 to 5,620,048 in 1920.**
3	Which source is primary, and which is secondary? Explain how each source was created.	**The census is primary because workers collected household information at the time. The later city history is secondary because it uses earlier records to explain the past.**
4	Summarize what the two sources establish about the city's growth and what they leave uncertain. Do not add your opinion.	**The census establishes that the population grew between 1900 and 1920. The later history suggests work and immigration as reasons, but the sources do not establish why every resident came to the city.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The census table shows that New York City's population rose from 3,437,202 in 1900 to 5,620,048 in 1920. The later city history describes both immigrants arriving and jobs available in the city. Neither source shows that every new resident came from another country. The visitor's claim goes beyond the evidence.

Accept any accurate comparison of census years and a paraphrase of the later account's explanation. For the caption, look for a clear distinction between documented population growth and an unproven claim about its cause.