

Canal Changes

Find a historical claim and the facts that support it.

3.14.F “develop and communicate a claim and supporting evidence visually, orally, or in writing related to a social studies topic.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the supporters' claim about the Erie Canal. Number two details that give evidence for that claim.

The Erie Canal

- ① In 1825, New York opened the Erie Canal, a waterway that linked the Hudson River to Lake Erie. The canal was 363 miles long. Supporters claimed that the canal would help New York communities grow by making it easier and cheaper to move goods. Before the canal, wagons carried many goods over rough roads, which took a long time and cost more money.
- ② After the canal opened, boats could carry heavy loads of flour, lumber, and other goods. A boat could move much more at one time than a wagon. Shipping costs fell, so farmers and business owners could sell goods in places farther away. Towns along the canal gained stores, docks, and jobs. These changes gave people evidence that the canal was helping trade.
- ③ Not everyone benefited in the same way. Building the canal was hard and dangerous work for many laborers, including Irish immigrants. The canal also made it easier for more settlers to move into western New York, where Haudenosaunee people already lived. Still, the new waterway changed trade across the state. The facts about lower shipping costs and growing canal towns support supporters' claim.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What claim did supporters make about the Erie Canal?

2 Write two details from the passage that support the supporters' claim.

3 How does the fact that boats could carry more than wagons support the claim?

4 What detail shows that the canal did not benefit everyone? Explain how this detail gives a fuller view of the canal.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write three sentences about why a public library is useful in a community. State one claim, then give two facts that support your claim.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the supporters' claim about the Erie Canal. Number two details that give evidence for that claim. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What claim did supporters make about the Erie Canal?	Supporters claimed that the canal would help New York communities grow by making it easier and cheaper to move goods.
2	Write two details from the passage that support the supporters' claim.	Answers include that boats carried much more than wagons, shipping costs fell, farmers and business owners sold goods farther away, and canal towns gained stores, docks, and jobs.
3	How does the fact that boats could carry more than wagons support the claim?	It shows that boats could move more goods at one time, making it easier to transport goods.
4	What detail shows that the canal did not benefit everyone? Explain how this detail gives a fuller view of the canal.	Building the canal was hard and dangerous for laborers, or more settlers moved into land where Haudenosaunee people already lived. This shows that the canal brought problems for some people.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A public library is useful because it gives community members books and information. People can borrow books instead of buying every book. Library workers can help visitors find information.

Accept a clear claim about the usefulness of a public library and two relevant supporting facts. Evidence may include borrowing books, finding information, using library materials, or getting help from library workers.