

Markets Shape Work

Trace how changing supply and demand affect farms, plantations, and factories.

5.11.B “evaluate the effects of supply and demand on industry and agriculture, including the plantation system, in the United States.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each change in supply or demand, then circle the effect it caused. Write the same number beside each matched change and effect.

Cotton, Crops, and Factories

- ① In the early United States, farmers and businesses watched what buyers wanted. When many people wanted a product, demand was high. Sellers could often charge more, so producers had a reason to make or grow more. When few buyers wanted a product, demand was low. Prices could fall, and producers might cut back. Supply, the amount available to sell, also affected prices and choices.
- ② Cotton plantations in the South grew cotton for mills in the United States and abroad. Demand for cotton cloth increased during the 1800s. Plantation owners responded by trying to grow more cotton, expanding cotton acreage and forcing enslaved people to do more labor. This system created wealth for some owners while denying enslaved people freedom, wages, and control over their work. More cotton supplied mills with a key raw material.
- ③ Supply and demand also shaped industry. A factory that made cotton cloth needed a steady supply of raw cotton. If cotton was scarce, the factory could make less cloth or pay more for it. If many customers wanted cloth, the factory could hire more workers and produce more. Railroad and shipping businesses also gained work when larger amounts of cotton and cloth had to move between farms, factories, and markets.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 When demand for a product was high, what did producers have a reason to do?

2 How did higher demand for cotton cloth affect plantation owners and enslaved people?

3 What could happen at a cloth factory if raw cotton became scarce?

4 How did moving larger amounts of cotton and cloth affect railroad and shipping businesses?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine that a late frost damages much of an orange crop while demand for orange juice stays high. Write exactly three sentences explaining the effects on exactly two kinds of businesses: orange farms and juice factories. Use supply, demand, and price correctly.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each change in supply or demand, then circle the effect it caused. Write the same number beside each matched change and effect. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	When demand for a product was high, what did producers have a reason to do?	They had a reason to make or grow more of the product.
2	How did higher demand for cotton cloth affect plantation owners and enslaved people?	Plantation owners tried to grow more cotton and expanded cotton acreage. They forced enslaved people to do more labor.
3	What could happen at a cloth factory if raw cotton became scarce?	The factory could make less cloth or pay more for cotton.
4	How did moving larger amounts of cotton and cloth affect railroad and shipping businesses?	They gained more work moving goods between farms, factories, and markets.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A late frost lowers the supply of oranges. Orange farms have fewer oranges to sell and may charge more for each one. Juice factories must pay more for oranges because demand for orange juice stays high, so they may make less juice or raise its price.

Accept equivalent cause-and-effect explanations that correctly connect changes in supply or demand to prices, production, labor, or business activity. For the open response, require exactly three sentences and effects on only orange farms and juice factories.