

Benefits in Motion

Trace how new ideas and inventions changed life in the United States.

5.22.C “explain how scientific discoveries and technological innovations in the fields of medicine, communication, and transportation have benefited individuals and society in the United States.”

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each scientific discovery or technological innovation. Circle the words that tell how it benefited an individual or society, then draw a line from each innovation to one benefit.

Changes That Helped People

- ① In the late 1800s, scientists learned that tiny germs can cause disease. This discovery changed medicine. Doctors and nurses improved handwashing and kept tools clean. Later, vaccines helped prevent illnesses such as polio, and antibiotics treated many bacterial infections. A child could miss fewer school days, while communities faced fewer outbreaks. Healthier workers and students could take part more fully in daily life.
- ② Communication innovations also connected people across long distances. The telephone let families and businesses share news without waiting for a letter to travel. Later, computer networks and mobile phones made it possible to send messages quickly and call for help in an emergency. An individual could reach a doctor or relative sooner. Communities could share warnings about dangerous weather and organize help after a disaster.
- ③ Transportation changed as engineers developed safer cars, airplanes, and interstate highways. Air travel allowed people to cross the country in hours instead of days. Trucks on highways moved food, medicine, and other goods between states. These innovations gave individuals more choices for travel and jobs. They also helped businesses serve customers far away and allowed communities to receive supplies quickly after storms or other emergencies.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did the discovery that germs cause disease lead to benefits for people and communities?

2 Explain one way faster communication benefited an individual and one way it benefited a community.

3 How did transportation innovations benefit both individuals and society?

4 How did faster communication and faster transportation each help communities during emergencies?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose a medical, communication, or transportation innovation that is not named in the passage. Write three sentences: name the innovation and its field, explain one benefit for an individual, and explain one benefit for society.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each scientific discovery or technological innovation. Circle the words that tell how it benefited an individual or society, then draw a line from each innovation to one benefit. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the discovery that germs cause disease lead to benefits for people and communities?	It led to cleaner medical practices, vaccines, and antibiotics. People could miss fewer school days, and communities had fewer outbreaks.
2	Explain one way faster communication benefited an individual and one way it benefited a community.	An individual could reach a doctor or relative sooner. A community could share weather warnings or organize help after a disaster.
3	How did transportation innovations benefit both individuals and society?	They gave individuals more travel and job choices. They helped businesses serve distant customers and helped communities receive supplies quickly during emergencies.
4	How did faster communication and faster transportation each help communities during emergencies?	Faster communication helped communities share warnings and organize help. Faster transportation helped communities receive food, medicine, and other supplies quickly.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Magnetic resonance imaging, or MRI, is a medical technology. It can help a patient receive information about an injury or illness. It helps doctors find health problems and plan treatment for many people.

Accept equivalent explanations that clearly connect each discovery or innovation to a benefit. For the open response, accept accurate examples not named in the passage that include both an individual benefit and a societal benefit.