

City Growth, New Work

Tracing how urbanization changed Texas occupations.

7.11.B “explain the changes in the types of jobs and occupations that have resulted from the urbanization of Texas.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline occupations or job types that grew because of urbanization, and circle the city condition that caused each change.

Texas Jobs Move to Town

- ① During the twentieth century, many Texans moved from rural areas to growing cities such as Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, and Austin. This urbanization changed where people lived and where employers needed workers. Cities concentrated customers, hospitals, offices, stores, and transportation routes in one place. As city populations grew, businesses needed more people to provide services, move goods, manage information, and maintain buildings. Urban jobs did not replace every rural job, but they increased the share of Texans working outside agriculture.
- ② Growing cities required construction workers to build homes, roads, offices, and water systems. Factories and food-processing plants near cities hired machine operators, inspectors, and repair workers. Larger hospitals added occupations such as laboratory technicians and medical coders. Stores, warehouses, and shipping companies employed sales workers, truck drivers, dispatchers, and inventory clerks. Banks and company offices also needed accountants, software workers, and information specialists. These jobs expanded because dense populations created many customers and organizations close together.
- ③ Not every job change came directly from urbanization. On farms, improved tractors, harvesters, irrigation equipment, and other technology allowed fewer workers to produce large crops. That technology-driven change helped push some people to seek work elsewhere, but it is different from the city growth that created new occupations. Urbanization especially increased jobs connected to city services and business networks, including health care, construction, retail, data work, processing, marketing, finance, and shipping. A job may grow for more than one reason, so historians examine the cause carefully.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Name two occupations from paragraph 2 that expanded as Texas cities grew. Explain one reason a growing city needed workers in one of those occupations.

2 How did the growth of cities change the kinds of work available in hospitals and in businesses?

3 What caused farms to need fewer workers, and why is that cause different from urbanization?

4 Choose two job areas from paragraph 3 that are linked especially to urbanization. What do those areas have in common?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine a Texas town is growing quickly as more families and businesses move there. Write exactly three sentences explaining two jobs that may increase because of urbanization and why each would increase, then explain one farm job change caused mainly by technology instead.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline occupations or job types that grew because of urbanization, and circle the city condition that caused each change. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Name two occupations from paragraph 2 that expanded as Texas cities grew. Explain one reason a growing city needed workers in one of those occupations.	Answers may include construction workers, laboratory technicians, medical coders, truck drivers, dispatchers, accountants, software workers, or information specialists. Cities needed these workers because growing populations needed services, buildings, goods moved, health care, or business support.
2	How did the growth of cities change the kinds of work available in hospitals and in businesses?	Larger hospitals added jobs such as laboratory technicians and medical coders. Businesses added jobs in stores, warehouses, shipping companies, banks, and offices, such as dispatchers, inventory clerks, accountants, and information specialists.
3	What caused farms to need fewer workers, and why is that cause different from urbanization?	Improved farm technology, including tractors, harvesters, and irrigation equipment, allowed fewer workers to produce large crops. This was a technology-driven change, while urbanization created jobs as city populations and businesses grew.
4	Choose two job areas from paragraph 3 that are linked especially to urbanization. What do those areas have in common?	Answers may include health care, construction, retail, data work, processing, marketing, finance, or shipping. These job areas grew because cities concentrated people, customers, services, and business networks.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

As a Texas town grows, laboratory technician jobs may increase because a larger population needs more hospital services. Shipping companies may hire more dispatchers because more stores and warehouses need goods moved through the city. On nearby farms, improved harvesters may reduce the number of farm workers, a technology-driven change rather than a result of urbanization.

Accept any passage-supported occupation and a clear explanation connecting its growth to a larger city population, services, customers, or business networks. Students must distinguish farm labor reductions caused by improved equipment from occupations created or expanded by urbanization.