

Factory City Forces

Trace the economic conditions that expanded factories and cities.

8.13.B "identify the economic factors that brought about rapid industrialization and urbanization."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the four sentences that explicitly identify an economic factor, and write 1, 2, 3, or 4 beside them in the order they appear. Circle the one sentence that explains how factory jobs led people to move near factories.

Why Factories and Cities Grew

- ① In the late 1800s, the United States industrialized quickly because businesses could obtain important raw materials. Coal from Appalachian mines powered steam engines, while iron ore from the Great Lakes region supplied metal for rails, machines, and buildings. These nearby resources lowered the cost of making goods. Factory owners could produce more items without paying to import every fuel and material. Access to raw materials was one economic factor behind rapid industrial growth in many regions.
- ② Railroads connected mines, farms, factories, and markets across long distances. They moved heavy coal and iron more cheaply and quickly than wagons could. Rail lines also let manufacturers send finished goods to customers in many states, which increased sales. This transportation network was a second economic factor. A third factor was investment capital, money that business owners and banks used to buy land, build factories, and purchase machines. Investors expected profits when factories made and sold large amounts of goods.
- ③ Factory work created a demand for many workers. Immigrants and people leaving farms supplied a large labor force, the fourth economic factor. Because many people needed wages, factory owners could hire workers for relatively low pay. Lower labor costs helped factories make goods at prices more customers could afford. As factories added jobs, workers and their families moved near the mills and plants. Stores, housing, and services followed, so small towns grew rapidly into crowded industrial cities.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which raw materials does the passage name, and how did nearby resources help factory owners?

2 How did railroads help factories reach more customers?

3 What is investment capital, and what did owners and banks use it to buy?

4 Explain how the labor force helped factories and then helped towns become cities.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine a new factory is planned near a small town. In 4 or 5 sentences, use exactly three economic factors from the passage to explain how the factory could succeed, then explain how its jobs could help the town grow.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the four sentences that explicitly identify an economic factor, and write 1, 2, 3, or 4 beside them in the order they appear. Circle the one sentence that explains how factory jobs led people to move near factories. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which raw materials does the passage name, and how did nearby resources help factory owners?	The passage names coal and iron ore. Nearby resources lowered the cost of making goods because owners did not have to import every fuel and material.
2	How did railroads help factories reach more customers?	Railroads carried finished goods to customers in many states, which increased sales.
3	What is investment capital, and what did owners and banks use it to buy?	Investment capital is money used for business growth. Owners and banks used it to buy land, build factories, and purchase machines.
4	Explain how the labor force helped factories and then helped towns become cities.	A large labor force let factory owners hire workers for relatively low pay, lowering labor costs. Factory jobs drew workers and families near mills and plants, and stores, housing, and services followed.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A factory near coal mines would have cheap fuel, so it could keep machines running at lower cost. A rail line would carry supplies in and products to distant buyers, increasing sales. Bank investment would pay for the building and machines. The new factory jobs could bring workers and stores to the town, helping it become a city.

Accept the four passage factors as raw materials, railroad transportation, investment capital, and a large labor force. For the open response, accept exactly three of these factors when each is connected to factory success and the response explains job-related town growth.