

Virginia on the Move

Transportation, industry, and city growth after the Civil War

VS.9 "The student will apply history and social science skills to understand the ways in which Virginia became interconnected and diverse by explaining the importance of railroads, waterways, new industries..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each transportation route or industry that increased connections or jobs. Then number 1, 2, and 3 beside three sentences that show how these changes helped towns and cities grow.

From Farms to Cities

- ① In the late 1800s, Virginia's railroads connected farms, mines, factories, towns, and ports. Trains carried coal from southwestern Virginia and crops from rural farms to buyers far away. They also brought tools and goods into the state. Rail lines made travel and shipping faster than wagons on many routes. Communities near stations gained new chances to sell products and receive supplies.
- ② Waterways also linked Virginia to other places. The James River and Chesapeake Bay helped move cargo to and from ports, including Norfolk. Coal mining grew in the southwest, while tobacco factories and textile mills hired many workers. Lumber and shipbuilding added jobs in some areas. New industries needed workers, transportation, stores, and services, so cities became important centers of trade and work.
- ③ Before this growth, most Virginians lived and worked in rural areas on farms. As jobs increased in mines, mills, factories, ports, and railroad work, more people moved to towns and cities. Urban places had more crowded neighborhoods and more kinds of jobs than rural communities. This change did not happen everywhere at once. Farming remained important, but Virginia became more connected, diverse, and urban.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did railroads help Virginia farms and mines sell their products?

2 Which two waterways helped move cargo to and from Virginia ports?

3 How did new industries help cities become centers of trade and work?

4 Describe one way life in urban places differed from life in rural communities.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine that Pine Creek is a rural Virginia community in the late 1800s. Write three sentences explaining how one transportation route and one new industry could change Pine Creek into a more urban place.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each transportation route or industry that increased connections or jobs. Then number 1, 2, and 3 beside three sentences that show how these changes helped towns and cities grow. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did railroads help Virginia farms and mines sell their products?	Railroads carried coal and farm crops to buyers far away, helping producers sell their products.
2	Which two waterways helped move cargo to and from Virginia ports?	The James River and Chesapeake Bay.
3	How did new industries help cities become centers of trade and work?	Industries hired workers and needed transportation, stores, and services. These needs helped cities grow as centers of trade and work.
4	Describe one way life in urban places differed from life in rural communities.	Urban places had more crowded neighborhoods and more kinds of jobs. Rural communities had more farming.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A railroad station lets a lumber mill send boards to buyers in other places. The mill hires workers, and stores open near the station to serve them. More people move to Pine Creek, so it becomes a busier town with more jobs.

Accept answers that connect railroads or waterways to faster movement of goods, connections to markets, or city growth. For the open response, accept any accurate cause-and-effect explanation using transportation, industry, jobs, services, or population growth.