

# Changing City Jobs

Trace how urban places have served people in different eras.

**WG.15.b** "explaining how the functions of towns and cities have changed over time."

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline every phrase that tells what a town or city did, then write 1, 2, or 3 beside it to show which paragraph, and time period, it comes from.

### From Market Towns to Connected Cities

- ① In the 1700s, many towns in Virginia and elsewhere grew where rivers, roads, or harbors made trade easier. Farmers brought tobacco, grain, timber, and other goods to market towns. Merchants stored, bought, and sold these products, while blacksmiths and other craftspeople served nearby residents. Some port towns also connected inland farms with ships traveling across the Atlantic. A town's main jobs were often tied to moving local resources and providing basic services for people who lived in the surrounding countryside.
- ② During the 1800s and early 1900s, railroads and factories changed the work of many cities. Railroad centers collected passengers and freight from wider areas. Factories drew workers, and neighborhoods, shops, and schools grew around industrial jobs. Cities such as Richmond expanded as places for manufacturing, transportation, government, and trade. These changes did not erase older functions. Markets still connected buyers and sellers, but faster transportation and factory production gave many urban places new regional importance.
- ③ Today, towns and cities continue to be centers for services, but their functions are more varied. A small town may support residents with schools, clinics, local government, stores, and recreation. A large city may offer universities, hospitals, offices, arts, technology businesses, and major transportation links. Digital communication lets some businesses serve customers far away, while highways and airports connect places to national and global networks. Urban places still provide gathering and trading spaces, yet they now often specialize in services, information, and connections as well as goods.

**2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE** \_\_\_\_\_ Use the passage

**1** What was one main function of many towns in the 1700s? Use one detail from the passage to support your answer.

**2** How did railroads and factories give many cities new functions during the 1800s and early 1900s?

**3** Name one function that continued from earlier towns to urban places today. Explain how the passage shows that it continued.

**4** How have digital communication, highways, and airports changed what some towns and cities can do today?

**3 YOUR TURN** \_\_\_\_\_ Your own words

Invent a town and explain how its function changes across three time periods: an early market period, a railroad or factory period, and today. Write 3 or 4 sentences, including one function that continues through the changes.

**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline every phrase that tells what a town or city did, then write 1, 2, or 3 beside it to show which paragraph, and time period, it comes from. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                                                    | ANSWER                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | What was one main function of many towns in the 1700s? Use one detail from the passage to support your answer.              | <b>Many towns served as market and trade centers. Farmers brought goods such as tobacco, grain, and timber there, and merchants stored, bought, and sold them.</b>                                 |
| 2 | How did railroads and factories give many cities new functions during the 1800s and early 1900s?                            | <b>Railroads made cities centers for collecting passengers and freight from wider areas. Factories created industrial jobs and helped cities grow as manufacturing and transportation centers.</b> |
| 3 | Name one function that continued from earlier towns to urban places today. Explain how the passage shows that it continued. | <b>Trading continued. Earlier markets connected buyers and sellers, and urban places today still provide gathering and trading spaces.</b>                                                         |
| 4 | How have digital communication, highways, and airports changed what some towns and cities can do today?                     | <b>Digital communication allows some businesses to serve faraway customers. Highways and airports connect towns and cities to national and global networks.</b>                                    |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

In 1780, Pine Landing was a place where farmers sold crops and loaded boats. After a railroad arrived, warehouses and repair shops made it a transportation and industrial center. Today, its clinic, community college, and online businesses serve a wider area. It still brings people together to trade goods and services.

Accept equivalent explanations that accurately connect each time period with the functions described in the passage. For the open response, accept varied invented examples if they show change across all three periods and identify a continuing function.