

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Urbanization & Industrialization - Answer Key

Use the text to answer each question below.

1. In the decades after the Civil War, cities in the United States grew at an incredible rate. In 1860, only nine cities had a population of more than 100,000. By 1880 that number had more than doubled to 20. Twenty years later in 1900, there were 38 cities with over 100,000 residents. By 1920, with 68 such cities, the country's urban population exceeded that of rural areas for the first time in American history. New York City led the way with a population of nearly 3,500,000 in 1900, but other cities like Chicago weren't far behind. Over a 40 year period, Chicago's population grew from 100,000 to 1,700,000. This massive growth was driven by three factors: immigration, migration and industrialization.

Which of the following best describes the purpose of the passage?

- A. to explain how immigration, migration and industrialization made New York City larger than Chicago in 1900
- B. to argue that urban life is more important to American history than rural life is
- ☒ C. to show how quickly cities grew after 1860 due to immigration, migration and industrialization
- D. to describe the political situation in the cities of the United States after 1860

*According to the passage, "In the decades after the Civil War, United States cities grew at an incredible rate... This massive growth was driven by three factors: immigration, migration and industrialization."*

2. Though immigration was not a new phenomenon in the United States, the middle and late 19th century saw a new wave of immigrants arriving from all over the world. In the 1840s, groups of relatively financially well-off immigrants arrived from northern and western Europe. These immigrants, who were often Protestant and hailed from countries like Ireland and Germany, settled in cities along the east coast and in the midwest of the United States. Later on, in the 1890s, Jewish and Catholic immigrants from southern and eastern Europe as well as immigrants from Mexico and Asia began to arrive in America. These immigrants were often poorer than those from northern and western Europe. Some were fleeing religious persecution, and others were escaping political unrest. But the common thread among most of these immigrants was that they were seeking opportunity in US cities. This influx of immigrants was fueled by inexpensive and fast travel on steamships. A once-expensive and long trip across the Atlantic or Pacific Ocean had become affordable and only took 8 to 12 days.

Which of the following best describes the relationship between steamship travel and immigration?

- A. Despite the dangers and excessive costs of steamship travel, small numbers of immigrants still made it to the United States.
- B. The steamship industry decided to give free rides to immigrants, but only if they were going to the United States.
- C. Major increases in immigration forced the steamship industry to lower prices and offer better travel conditions. ✓
- D. As steamship travel became faster and cheaper, immigration to the United States increased.
- According to the passage, "This influx of immigrants was fueled by inexpensive and fast travel on steamships. A once-expensive and long trip across the Atlantic or Pacific Ocean had become affordable and only took 8 to 12 days."*

3. Cities were a popular place for immigrants to settle for a number of reasons. Many immigrants arrived in the US in cities and, lacking the money necessary to travel farther into the country, stayed there. Many jobs were located in cities: steam and electricity led to a boom in industry during this time period. Finally, cities offered a support system to immigrants. Ethnic enclaves were cities within cities that allowed immigrants to speak their native language, build a social life with people from their home country and maintain their culture. Have you ever been to or heard of a section of a city referred to as Chinatown or Little Italy? These types of neighborhoods started as ethnic enclaves—cultural centers where people from China or Italy lived, ate their native dishes and distributed newspapers in their native language.

Which of the following was a benefit of living in an ethnic enclave?

- A. Immigrants could maintain their culture and way of life.
- B. Immigrants could speak their native language.
- C. Immigrants could continue eating the food from their home country.
- ✓ D.

all of the above

*According to the passage, ethnic enclaves “allowed immigrants to speak their native language... and maintain their culture.” They were also places where immigrants “ate their native dishes and distributed newspapers in their native language.”*

4. Not everyone who populated US cities came from other countries. Many were migrants who came from other parts of the United States. As technological advances in agriculture began putting small farms out of business, many farm workers struggled to find work. Because of this, about one-third of people moving to cities were Americans leaving farms for industrial jobs. At the same time, African Americans were migrating from the South to cities in the North and Midwest. Faced with discrimination and danger as a result of Jim Crow laws and lynching, as well as punishing and unfavorable work as sharecroppers, black migrants looked to northern cities for opportunities that didn't exist in southern states.

Based on the passage, which of the following best describes the relationship between technology and migration?

A. Technological advances in travel made it easier for farmers to migrate to cities, which led to a larger urban workforce.



B.

Technological advances in agriculture left many farm workers without a job, forcing them to migrate to cities to find work.

*According to the passage, "As technological advances in agriculture began putting small farms out of business, many farm workers struggled to find work. Because of this, about one-third of people moving to cities were Americans leaving farms for industrial jobs."*

C. Technological advances in urban factories brought farmwork to cities, and farm workers had no choice but to migrate.

D. Technological advances in agriculture made rural America more attractive, and city dwellers migrated to the country for work.

5. The 19th century marked a transition from rural farmers to urban factories as the cornerstone of United States industry. In 1880, for the first time, there were more wage workers than independent workers in the US—meaning there were more people working for a boss than there were working for themselves. This was a result of the mechanization of agriculture, a phenomenon that sent many self-employed farmers into cities for work in factories and mills. This time period is known as the Second Industrial Revolution. Advances in steam and electricity meant factories no longer had to be located next to waterways. These advances brought many factories into urban areas, turning cities into industrial hubs. Many cities specialized in one industry: Pittsburgh had steel, Chicago had meat packaging and New York City made clothing.

Which of the following is an example of a wage worker?



A.

a warehouse worker at a large corporation

*According to the passage, wage workers are "people working for a boss" and not "working for themselves."*

B. a newspaper stand owner

C. a farmer who owns and runs a small farm

D. a child running a lemonade stand

6. The Second Industrial Revolution was lucrative for the business owners of the Gilded Age. As titans of business like Cornelius Vanderbilt and JP Morgan amassed a fortune, residents of cities worked long hours in terrible working conditions for low wages. With the institution of mass production and assembly line business practices, factories grew rapidly. These factories were staffed not only by men and women, but also relied on child labor. Though opportunities for African Americans existed, factory work was still segregated. Labor unions were formed to fight back on behalf of workers, but many businesses were monopolies. With little competition, business owners had the power to set wages and working hours with no input from workers or unions. This left most workers poor and overloaded, living in crowded and unsanitary tenements around America's largest cities. The divide between rich and poor grew in both wealth and distance. As elevated railroads and subway systems were built, the rich moved farther away to wealthy neighborhoods or suburbs and only came to the city center during working hours.

With which of the following statements would a labor union leader in the Gilded Age most likely agree?

- A. Business owners built their business from the ground up, so they should have final say over worker pay.
- B. Inequality is not an important issue. What really matters is building more subway systems.
- ✓ C. It is the responsibility of a business owner to ensure the safety and fair treatment of their workers.
- D. Tenements are dirty and crowded because workers do not take enough responsibility for their actions.

*According to the passage, "Labor unions were formed to fight back on behalf of workers, but many businesses were monopolies. With little competition, business owners had the power to set wages and working hours with no input from workers or unions."*

7. Throughout the late 1800s and early 1900s, nativism and racism was widespread. Rulings like *Plessy v. Ferguson* in 1896 solidified racial segregation and Jim Crow laws. At the same time, the false theory of Social Darwinism intensified racist and anti-immigrant sentiment. As racial and economic inequality worsened, reform movements sought to address these issues. The unchecked greed and continuing racism and xenophobia of the Gilded Age had reached a tipping point. This led to the Progressive Era. While issues persisted and success was uneven, this era offered an early blueprint for political, business and social reform.

Based on the passage, the Gilded Age was a time of

- ☒ A. inequality.  
*According to the passage, "racial and economic inequality worsened" during the Gilded Age.*
- B. unity.
- C. reform.
- D. imperialism.