NAME _____ DATE_____

TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD COMPLETED (1869)

Directions: Read the passage and answer the questions below.

In 1869, the first railroad across the United States was finished. It connected the East and West for the first time, making the country feel smaller. Before the railroad, people had to travel by wagon or ship, which could take months and was often dangerous. Now, they could make the same trip in just a few days. The railroad also made it easier to send goods, mail, and animals across the country.

Fun Fact: Before the railroad, it took up to six months to travel from coast to coast.

PREVIEW

1. When was the Transcontinental Railroad completed?

a) 1861

b) 1869

c) 1885

2. What did the railroad connect?

a) East and West

b) North and South

c) Canada and Mexico

3. What was travel like before the railroad?

a) Slow and dangerous

b) Fast and safe

c) Done mostly by airplane

4. How long could travel take before the railroad?

a) A few days

b) A few weeks

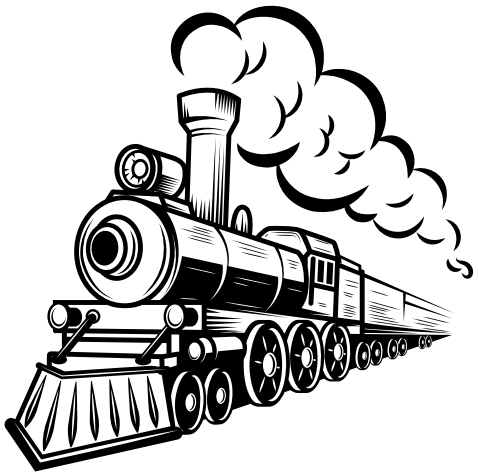
c) Several months

5. What did the railroad make easier?

a) Sending goods and mail

b) Growing food on farms

c) Building ships in ports



NAME _____ DATE_____

GROWTH OF FACTORIES (LATE 1800S)

Directions: Read the passage and answer the questions below.

In the late 1800s, many new factories were built in cities across the United States. They made clothes, steel, and other goods that people needed. Many people moved from farms to cities to work in these factories, hoping to earn more money. The work was hard, the hours were long, and the conditions were often unsafe. Still, factories helped the country grow and produce more than ever before.

Fun Fact: Some factory workers were as young as 10 years old.

PREVIEW

1. Where were many new factories built in the late 1800s?

a) Farms

b) Cities

c) Forests

2. What goods did factories make?

a) Clothes and steel

b) Airplanes and rockets

c) Computers and phones

3. Why did people move to cities?

a) To find gold

b) To work in factories

c) To become farmers

4. What were conditions in factories often like?

a) Safe and clean

b) Unsafe and hard

c) Fun and relaxing

5. What did factories help the country do?

a) Produce more goods

b) Shorten work hours

c) Move jobs to farms

