

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

GRADE 8

INTERMEDIATE-LEVEL TEST SOCIAL STUDIES

BOOKLET 2

DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION (DBQ)

JUNE 2003

Student Name _____

School Name _____

Print your name and the name of your school on the lines above.

The test has three parts. Parts I and II are in Booklet 1; Part III is in this test booklet.

Part III is based on several documents.

Part III A contains the documents. Each document is followed by one or more questions. Write your answer to each question in this test booklet in the space provided.

Part III B contains one essay question based on the documents. Write your answer to this question in the separate essay answer booklet, beginning on the first page of the booklet.

You will have $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours to answer the questions in Booklet 2 and write your essay.

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THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12234

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The answer to the essay question is to be written in the separate essay booklet.

In developing your answer to Part III, be sure to keep this general definition in mind:

discuss means “to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail”

Part III

DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

This question is based on the accompanying documents (1–6). This question is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. Some of the documents have been edited for the purposes of the question. As you analyze the documents, take into account the source of each document and any point of view that may be presented in the document.

Historical Context:

During the 19th century, construction of the Erie Canal and the transcontinental railroad led to economic growth in the United States.

Task:

Using information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies, answer the questions that follow each document in Part A. Your answers to the questions will help you write the Part B essay in which you will be asked to:

- Discuss how the Erie Canal and the transcontinental railroad led to economic growth in the United States

TURN THE PAGE FOR PART A ⇨

Part A

Short-Answer Questions

Directions: Analyze the documents and answer the short-answer questions that follow each document in the space provided.

Document 1A

By 1825, the Erie Canal gave another boost to New York's already busy seaports. Commercial vessels could now travel north up the Hudson River all the way to Lake Erie. This new waterway not only connected the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes, it caused a terrific boon [increase] in industry all along the Hudson River and made New York's ports and harbor more valuable than ever.

Between 1830 and 1860, New York City grew at an astounding rate. . . .

Source: Virginia Schomp, *New York Celebrates the States*, Benchmark

Document 1B

Prior to construction of the canal, New York City was the nation's fifth largest seaport, behind Boston, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New Orleans. Within 15 years of its opening [Erie Canal], New York [City] was the busiest port in America, moving tonnages greater than Boston, Baltimore and New Orleans combined. . . .

Source: New York State Canal Corporation

1a Based on the documents, state **one** way the Erie Canal affected the economic growth of **New York State**. [1]

Score

b Based on the documents, state **one** way the Erie Canal affected the economic growth of **New York City**. [1]

Score

Document 2

Shipping Freight During
the Erie Canal Era
(New York City to Buffalo)

	Dirt Road	Canal
Method	Wagon	Boat
Amount of Time	21 Days	8 Days
Cost	\$100/ton	\$10/ton

Source: James Silver, *American History Activities*,
The Center for Applied Research in Education (adapted)

2a According to this chart, how many days did it take to ship freight from New York City to Buffalo using the Erie Canal? [1]

_____ Score

b Using information from the chart, state **two** economic advantages of using the Erie Canal instead of dirt roads to transport freight during the canal era. [2]

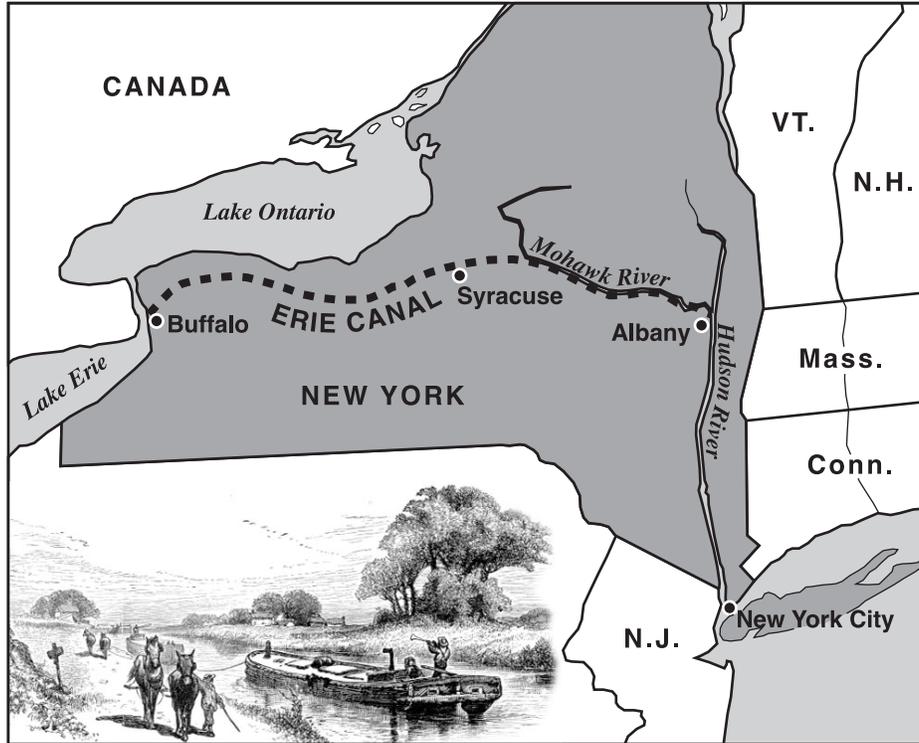
(1) _____

_____ Score

(2) _____

_____ Score

Document 3

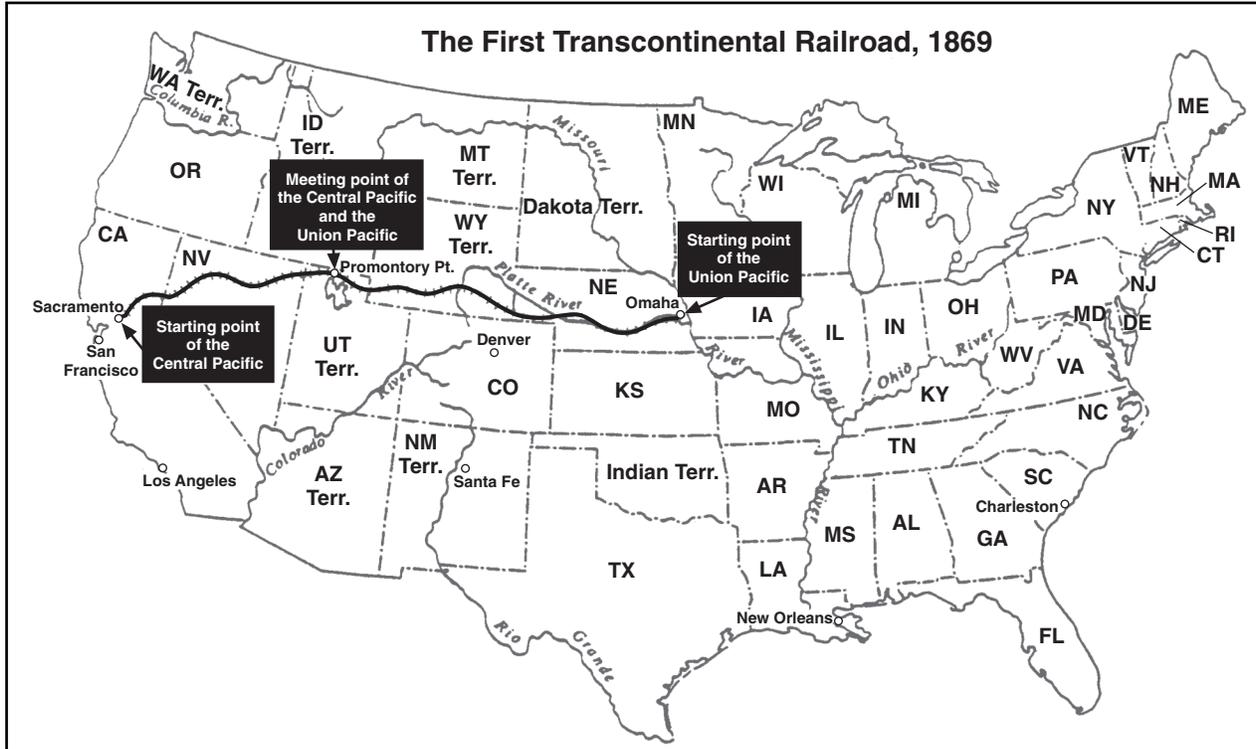


Source: James Silver, *American History Activities*,
The Center for Applied Research in Education (adapted)

3 Based on the map, state **one** way the Erie Canal was important to the economic growth of the United States. [1]

Score

Document 4



Source: James F. Silver, *American History Activities*, Center for Applied Research in Education (adapted)

4 According to this map, how did the completion of the first transcontinental railroad benefit economic growth in the United States? [1]

Score

Document 5

Population of Western Cities

City	1860	1890
Denver	2,603	106,713
Omaha	1,883	140,452
Portland	2,874	46,385
San Francisco	56,802	298,997

Source: Population Abstract of the United States
(from *Creating America*, McDougal Littell)

5 What does this chart show about the effect of the transcontinental railroad on the population of western cities? [1]

Score

Document 6

From the West, the railroads carried eastward such raw materials as lumber, minerals, livestock, and grain. In midwestern cities like St. Louis, Chicago, Minneapolis, and Cleveland, the raw materials were processed. Grain was milled into flour. Hogs became bacon and hams. Cattle became beef. Iron ore was converted into steel. Lumber was cut into wood for housing. The processed goods were shipped by rail to eastern cities. From eastern cities, in turn, came manufactured goods, which were sold to westerners. . . .

Source: Lorna Mason et al., *America's Past and Promise*, McDougal Littell

6 Based on this passage, state *two* ways the railroads influenced economic growth in the United States. [2]

(1) _____

(2) _____

Score

Part B

Essay

Directions: Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs, and a conclusion. Use evidence from at least **four** documents in the body of the essay. Support your response with relevant facts, examples, and details. Include additional outside information.

Historical Context:

During the 19th century, the construction of the Erie Canal and the transcontinental railroad led to economic growth in the United States.

Task: Using information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies, write an essay in which you:

- Discuss how the Erie Canal and the transcontinental railroad led to economic growth in the United States

Guidelines

In your essay, be sure to:

- Address all aspects of the *Task* by accurately analyzing and interpreting at least **four** documents
- Incorporate information from the documents in the body of the essay
- Incorporate relevant outside information
- Support the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Use a logical and clear plan of organization
- Introduce the theme by establishing a framework that is beyond a simple restatement of the *Task* or *Historical Context* and conclude with a summation of the theme

FOR TEACHER USE ONLY

Part I Score	
Part II Score	
Part IIIA Score	
Total Part I, II, and IIIA Score	
Part IIIB Essay Score	
Final Score (obtained from conversion chart) scaled 1-100	