

Black

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

1 of 4

Part A — Mandatory

1

Part B — Circle one

2 or 3

Part C — Circle one

4 or 5

1 of 4

After the end of the Civil War, America experienced a second industrial revolution.

The war had built up Northern industry and caused for quick technological innovation in order to fight the war. For example, the Rail Road built during the civil war to allow for quick transportation of materials had massive impact on the lives of Americans in the following years -- it allowed for western farmers to settle the western territory with ease and also allowed for the connection of the entire country and therefore ease of shipment. Many innovations such as the railroad helped to build industry and change the face of America after the civil war. However while many of these innovations raised the quality of life for middle class urban residents, it meant horrible conditions for the factory workers.

The technological innovations from 1865 to 1920 increased the quality of middle class American lives dramatically. For one, the innovations in transportation led to the development of cars and electric shuttles. These transportation changes allowed for the middle class Americans who could afford the daily commute to move outside of the cities. This suburbanization meant an immediate improvement in the quality of life

2 of 4

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Part A — Mandatory

1

Part B — Circle one

2 or 3

Part C — Circle one

4 or 5

2 of 4

of middle-class urban Americans, because they now were relieved of the dismal conditions of the city — they had an escape while maintaining their businesses. Revolutions in the production industry allowed for the mass production of goods. The development of the assembly line meant that consumer products could be produced quickly and efficiently for little expense. Due to this the development of the assembly line and interchangeable parts (earlier) middle-class Americans experienced another boost in their quality of life — they could now afford luxuries previously allotted to the rich. The technological innovations from 1865 to 1920 raised the middle-class urban's status and acted as a precursor to the frivolity of the 1920s.

While the middle classes were only improved, the factory, laboring classes only saw an increasingly dismal lifestyle. The creation of the Bessemer process and development of the steel industry meant revolutions in the construction and landscapes of cities. While it produced some marvelous feats of engineering like the Brooklyn bridge, it also meant the ability to move skyscrapers and cram more and more urban poor into tiny residences. One housing innovation was the dumbbell tenements. They were designed with an air shaft so that it would follow the building regulation that every apartment have a window. Instead of facilitating airflow, these

3 of 4

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Part A — Mandatory

1

Part B — Circle one

2 or 3

Part C — Circle one

4 or 5

3 of 4

design of the tenements facilitated the spread of cholera and virus. Additionally, the creation of the assembly line negatively impacted the lives of the urban factory workers. Because production could now be done by the hands of unskilled workers, removing the necessity of large machines and in charge of a single step of production, many factory workers ~~were laid off~~ and many white factory workers saw their positions go to ^{new} immigrants who did not have particular skills and could perform the easy jobs. In addition, the changes in factory production meant that workers would work longer hours under dismal conditions. ~~They were~~ They were forced to work in areas where air quality was horrible, and long hours with heavy machines that could easily injure a person. The lack of skilled labor necessary also caused wages to decrease and made factory workers even more dependent on political machines like Boss Tweed. The technological developments from 1865 to 1920 ~~also~~ worsened quality of life for factory workers. ~~They were too poor to even enjoy the fruits of their labor~~ They were too poor to even enjoy the fruits of their labor — a consumer society.

The technological innovations from 1865 and 1920 had opposite effects on the urban middle-class

4 of 4

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Part A — Mandatory

1

Part B — Circle one

2 or 3

Part C — Circle one

4 or 5

4 of 4

and the urban factory workers. The same technology
that raised the middle class's status in turn
harmed the factory workers. My only
wonder the gap.