

Short answer identification and essay.

Practice your short answer ID skills by answering the question below.

Why did some US observers refer to workers during the industrial revolution as “wage slaves,” and to child labor as “child slavery?”

Be prepared to answer several short answer identification and essays for tomorrow’s quiz:

1. Identify three important US inventions and explain how they contributed to the industrialization of the US.
2. Who were the wealthiest Americans during the period of industrialization and how did they make their fortunes?
3. Who was Samuel Gompers and what was the purpose of the AF of L?
4. How did the railroads contribute to the industrialization of the US and to the destruction of the Plains Indians?

Short answer identification or essay questions demand that the writer turn the question around into a topic sentence and give excellent details in a few short sentences or paragraph. The goal is to show the reader what you know in a minimum of space.

Why did some US observers refer to workers during the industrial revolution as “wage slaves,” and to child labor as “child slavery?”

Workers during the industrial revolution were often called “wage slaves” and child labor was referred to as “child slavery.” In the period of US industrialization (1865-1900) workers labored 12-16 hours a day for low pay. Employers often hired children to work in the fields, mines, and factories to make larger profits. In the coal mines “breaker boys” were sometimes killed by cave-ins or died of black lung disease. Although their employers did not own them, workers labored sun-up to sun down in poverty, disease, and hopelessness much like the slaves of the South.