During the post-Civil War decades, such wartime Republican initiatives as the Homestead Act and the Morrill Act for endowing agricultural colleges bore valuable economic fruit in the form of greater agricultural productivity. Federal railroad legislation had even weightier consequences. By 1871, under the terms of the Pacific Railroad Act and subsequent measures, the federal government had given private railroad companies over 130 million acres of land in the trans-Mississippi West, about one-tenth of the entire public domain. Individual states contributed a total of forty-nine million additional acres from their own public lands. This huge mass of real estate—larger than the state of Texas—was a vital source of funds for the railroads. People with savings—especially middle-class folk—who would not buy the stocks and bonds of the railroads, did buy their land. Thousands were attracted west to take up farms in the grants of the Northern Pacific, Union Pacific, Burlington, and other land-rich railroads. Their contribution to the roads' coffers was immense. The average price at which the railroads sold their land was about $3.30 an acre, bringing the promoters about $435 million.


7 According to Irwin Unger, what was one impact of federal land policy on the United States economy? [1]
Federal Land Policy in the 1800s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Land given as homestead grants</td>
<td>213.9 million acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Land given to support railroad construction</td>
<td>129.0 million acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Land given to states for educational purposes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- common schools</td>
<td>73.2 million acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- agricultural &amp; mechanical colleges</td>
<td>11.1 million acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Land given to war veterans (Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mexican War)</td>
<td>68.2 million acres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


5 Based on this chart, what were two examples of federal land policy in the 1800s? [2]

(1) ____________________________________________________________________________

 Score □

(2) ____________________________________________________________________________

 Score □
### Transportation Methods of the mid-1800s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method of Transportation</th>
<th>Average Speed</th>
<th>Shipping Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roads</td>
<td>2 miles per hour by wagon</td>
<td>15 cents per ton per mile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6–8 miles per hour by stagecoach</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canals</td>
<td>2–5 miles per hour</td>
<td>1.1 cents per ton per mile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railroads</td>
<td>10–20 miles per hour (including stops)</td>
<td>3.4 cents per ton per mile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: George Rogers Taylor, *The Transportation Revolution, 1815 to 1860*, Rinehart and Company, 1951 (adapted)

Based on this chart, what was **one** advantage of using railroads compared with other methods of transportation in the mid-1800s? [1]
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: Loma 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 [ ]
Like information technology [IT] today, railroads in the second half of the 19th century promised to revolutionize society—shrinking distances, dramatically lowering costs, opening new markets, and increasing competition. Railroads were the great transformational technology of the age and promised to change everything. Like IT today, railroads sucked up the bulk of the world's investment capital, creating a speculative bubble that ultimately burst—blowing away much of the capital that investors had poured into the industry. While many investors lost their shirts, railroads did, in the end, deliver the revolution promised. Costs came down, living standards rose, markets expanded, and geography shrank. In fact, the railroad infrastructure, built with so much sweat, blood, and money a century ago, is still serving us today. . . .

Source: Barry Sheehy, "Train Wrecks: Why Information Technology Investments Derail," CPC Econometrics

9 According to Barry Sheehy, what were two effects of railroads on the American economy? [2]

(1) __________________________________________________________________________

Score [ ]

(2) __________________________________________________________________________

Score [ ]
5 Based on this document, what was one negative effect of the railroad? [1]
Part A: Short-Answer Questions

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

Document 1

1a. What method of transportation is shown in the cartoon? ________________________ [1]

Score ______

b. What were two advantages of shipping products this way?
(1) ____________________________________________________________ [1]

Score ______

(2) ____________________________________________________________ [1]

Score ______