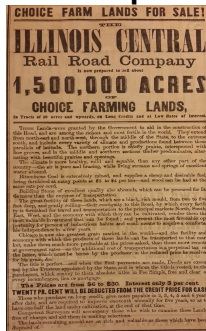


Teaching with Primary Sources Lesson Outline

Grade Level:
Standard(s) or Objectives:

Grade 6
CCSS. RI.6.1- Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
CCSS. RI.6.5-Analyze how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the ideas.

Morris Special Collections Resources:



Choice Farm Lands for Sale, Chicago, 1857

Choice Farm Lands for Sale, Box 5, American Broadside from Pre-Revolution to Post Civil War, Special Collections Research Center, Morris Library, Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Specific Pages Used: [http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/h?ammem/rbpebib:@field\(NUMBER+@band\(rbpe+0170360a\)\)](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/h?ammem/rbpebib:@field(NUMBER+@band(rbpe+0170360a)))

Topic Background:

The Illinois Central Railroad was chartered in 1851 to build a railroad from Cairo, Illinois, at the joining of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, to Galena, in the extreme northwestern corner of the state (the "Old Main"), with a branch from Centralia (named for the railroad) to Chicago (the "Chicago Branch").

Excerpted from: <http://www.icrrhistorical.org/history.html>

Source(s) Used:

This is an advertisement about the Illinois Central rail road company prepared to sell about 1,500,000 acres of choice farming lands in tracts of 40 acres and upwards on long credits and at low rates of interest, Chicago, 1857. This notice gives information about the features of the land and how profitable it could be for the purchaser.

Multiple Choice Answer Key:

Question 1 – A & C
Question 2 – A

CHOICE FARM LANDS FOR SALE!

THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL Rail Road Company
Is now prepared to sell about
1,500,000 ACRES
OF
CHOICE FARMING LANDS,
In Tracts of 40 acres and upwards, on Long Credits and at Low Rates of Interest.

THESE Lands were granted by the Government to aid in the construction of this Road, and are among the richest and most fertile in the world. They extend from north-east and north-west, through the middle of the State, to the extreme south, and include every variety of climate and productions found between those parallels of latitude. The northern portion is chiefly prairie, interspersed with fine groves, and in the middle and southern sections timber predominates, alternating with beautiful prairies and openings.

The climate is more healthy, mild and equable, than any other part of the country—the air is pure and bracing, while living streams and springs of excellent water abound.

Bituminous Coal is extensively mined, and supplies a cheap and desirable fuel, being furnished at many points at \$2 to \$4 per ton—and wood can be had at the same rate per cord.

Building Stone of excellent quality also abounds, which can be procured for little more than the expense of transportation.

The great fertility of these lands, which are a black, rich mould, from two to five feet deep, and gently rolling—their contiguity to this Road, by which every facility is furnished for travel and transportation to the principal markets North, South, East, West, and the economy with which they can be cultivated, render them the most valuable investment that can be found; and present the most favorable opportunity for persons of industrious habits and small means to acquire a comfortable independence in a few years.

Chicago is now the greatest grain market in the world—and the facility and economy with which the products of these lands can be transported to that market, make them much more profitable at the prices asked, than those more remote at government rates—as the additional cost of transportation is a perpetual tax on the latter, which must be borne by the producer in the reduced price he receives for his grain, &c.

The title is perfect—and when the final payments are made, Deeds are executed by the Trustees appointed by the State, and in whom the title is vested, to the purchasers, which convey to them absolute titles in Fee Simple, free and clear of every incumbrance, lien or mortgage.

The Prices are from \$6 to \$30. Interest only 3 per cent.
TWENTY PER CENT WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM THE CREDIT PRICE FOR CASH

Those who purchase on long credit, give notes payable in 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 years after date, and are required to improve one-tenth annually for five years, so as to have one-half the land under cultivation, at the end of that time.

Competent Surveyors will accompany those who wish to examine these Lands, free of charge, and aid them in making selections.

The lands remaining unsold are as rich and valuable as those which have been disposed of.

Choice Farm Lands for Sale, Chicago, 1857

1. Which state shows how the author uses important details to show that the Choice Farm Lands are profitable for sale? (CC.1)

- A. "The climate is more healthy, mild and equable, than any other part of the country -the air is pure and bracing, while living streams and springs of excellent water abound.
- B. "Competent Surveyors will accompany those who wish to examine these Lands, free of charge and aid them in making selections. "
- C. "They extend from north-east and north-west, through the middle of the State, to the extreme south and include every variety of climate and productions found between those parallels of latitude."
- D. "The lands remaining unsold are as rich and valuable as these which have been disposed of."

2. Why are paragraphs 1 to 4 important to the article? (CC.5)

- A. They provide important details about why Choice Farm Lands for sale are good.
- B. They provide a summary of the whole passage.
- C. They show that Choice Farm Lands will not benefit the buyers.
- D. They show that these lands are owned by the railroad company.