



Changing Times

Information for students

Today, over 80% of Canadians live in urban centres. However, this was not always the case. In the second half of the 19th century, thousands flocked to cities in search of work. This led to a phenomenon called *urbanization* and new standards for working conditions thanks to unions.

Click [here](#) to access an online version of your *Reflections* History textbook. **Pages 66-74** will teach you a little about the growing trend to urbanization and the population movements that led to it.

- If you do not have access to the Internet, read pages 66-74 of your *Reflections* textbook. If you do not have your textbook, you can look at the historical documents below to help you with the activities
- Now that you have learned about urbanization and the population movements that led to it, do the following activities:
 - **establish connections** between documents, deciding if they represent a working condition or a living condition during the second half of the 19th century
 - **establish causal connections** between three different trends relating to population movements
 - **situate in space** the emigration of French Canadians to the United States between the years 1850 and 1890
 - **determine a consequence** on Québec's territory of French Canadian emigration to the United States

Materials required

Useful resources, depending on personal preferences and availability:

- Device with Internet access
- Writing materials (paper, pencil, etc.)

Information for parents

Students could:

- do further research on the topic using resources like [The Canadian Encyclopedia](#)

Parents should:

- discuss the ideas presented and potential answers with their child



History of Québec and Canada

1. The following documents represent conditions in the second half of the 19th century. **Establish connections** by entering the number of each document in the appropriate space below.

Document 1

Factory life in the late 1900s



“Yet the ... conditions that they experienced and the wages they earned were, more often than not, less than ideal ... and ... accidents were common. Wages and hours were punishing ...”

The Canadian Encyclopedia

Document 2



Source: Open Text BC, Canadian History: Post-Confederation

<https://opentextbc.ca/postconfederation/chapter/3-5-urbanization-and-industry/>

Living conditions	Working conditions



History of Québec and Canada

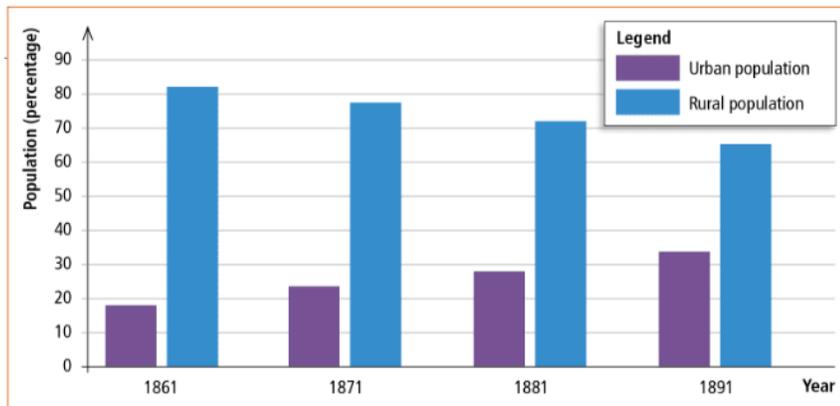
1. Explain how the rural exodus affected living conditions in urban areas in the second half of the 19th century.

Answer the question, providing details on the elements below and **establishing the connections between** them.

- The reason for the rural exodus
- The population in urban areas
- Living conditions in urban areas

Document 3

Urban and rural populations in Québec, 1861-1891



Source: Sylvain Fortin et al., *Reflections.qc.ca: 1840 to Our Times*, History of Québec and Canada, Secondary IV (Montréal: Chenelière Éducation, 2018), 68

Document 4

“In working-class neighborhoods, multi-storey buildings were crammed together. Working-class families lived modestly, often in uncomfortable and unhealthy conditions... Water ... had to be transported, since aqueducts only supplied certain neighborhoods.”

Source: Sylvain Fortin et al., *Reflections.qc.ca: 1840 to Our Times*, History of Québec and Canada, Secondary IV (Montréal: Chenelière Éducation, 2018), 70

Document 5

“While the first factories (in glass, clothing, and shipbuilding industries) were set up in Nova Scotia, industrialization was soon centralized in Ontario and Québec (Montréal, Hamilton, Toronto) in the tobacco and textile industries, in foundries, and in the railway-supplies business. The demand for unskilled labour (especially for construction gangs) and the numbers of skilled workers (e.g., carpenters, bricklayers, tailors, and foundry and leather workers) grew rapidly.”

The Canadian Encyclopedia

Answer:

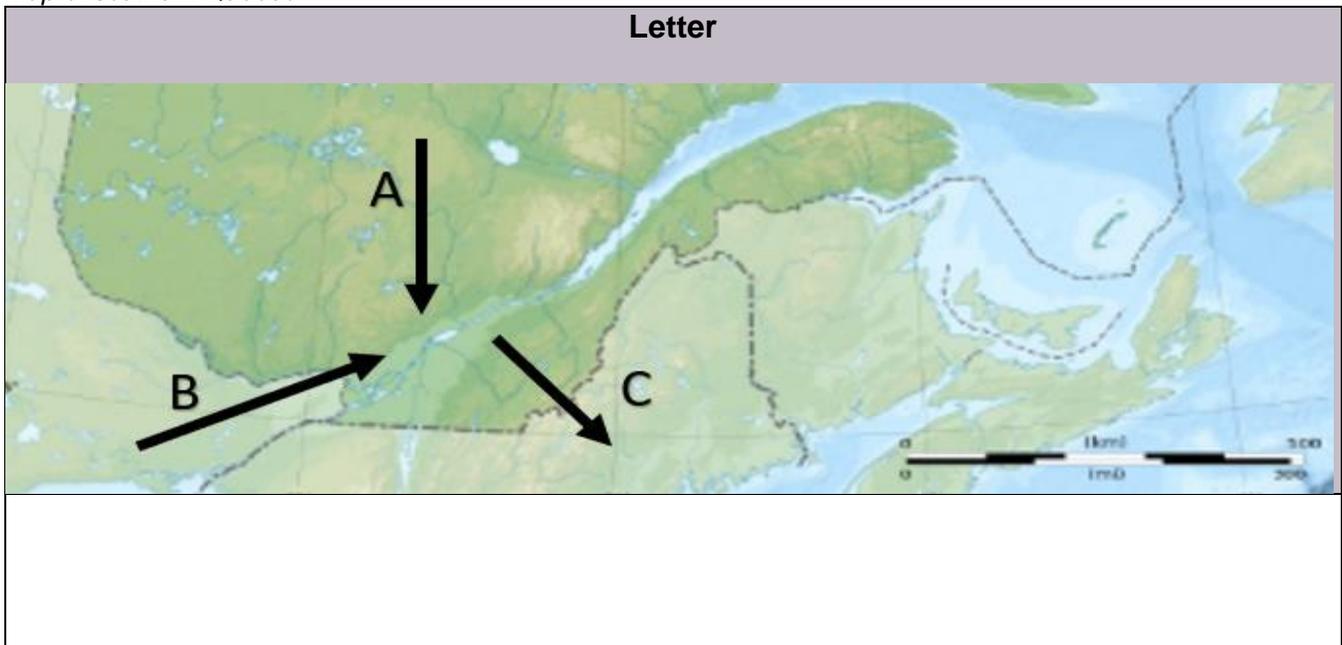


History of Québec and Canada

1. Between the years 1850 and 1890, over 400 000 French Canadians settled in the United States, particularly in the northeast. Refer to Document 6 and **indicate the letter that best corresponds** to this population movement.

Document 6

Map of southern Québec



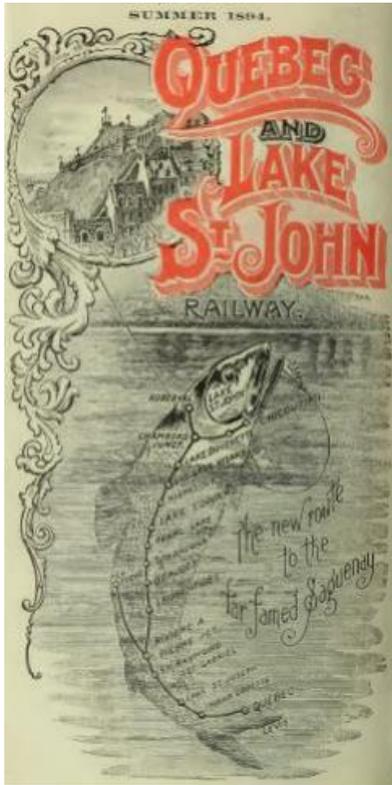


History of Québec and Canada

1. Refer to Documents 7 and 8 to determine a consequence on Québec's territory of French Canadian emigration to the United States.

Document 7

A poster advertising a rail trip to Lac Saint-Jean, 1894



Source: Corporation de l'activité pêche Lac Saint-Jean
https://claplacsaintjean.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Perspective_historique_ouananiche_Final.pdf

Document 8

Fishing along the Métabetchouan, Lac Saint-Jean, 1896



Source: Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

Answer:



Appendix – Changing Times

Information for students

Answers:

1.

Living conditions	Working conditions
2	1

2.

Industrialization OR the opening of factories OR the demand for labour in the cities led to population growth in the cities OR urbanization, which led to poor living conditions OR overcrowding in working-class neighborhoods.

3.

Letter
C

4.

Colonization of the Lac-Saint-Jean region OR colonization of new areas in Québec