



Composing Think Aloud Examples

The following composing think aloud examples are intended for use as PWIM™ literacy strategies. The examples were designed and piloted by Kim Heckart, a BHH mentor and 3rd grade teacher in the College Community School District of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Think Aloud to Follow Activity 4

Related words: ***skilled craftsmen, assembly line, inventions***

In the 1800's, industrialization changed the way things were made. Before industrialization, people called craftsmen were skilled at making something. They worked with their hands to make an entire product by themselves in a store or shop. During the age of industry, new tools and assembly lines were created. Many unskilled workers worked on machines to make parts of a whole product in large buildings called factories. Industrialization was a time when many inventions were created that changed people's jobs.

Think Aloud to Follow Activity 7

Related words: ***boss, worker's rights, child labor, bobbin girls***

Factories created many jobs for people, but the work conditions were often not good. The bosses and workers did not agree. The workers were immigrants, especially women and children, and sharecroppers who moved to the North. Some bosses locked doors and windows in the factories, making it hard to breathe. The pay was unfair, and working conditions were often dangerous. Children were forced to work to earn money for their families.

Many worked in textile factories as bobbin girls who took spools of thread off the machines. Other children were servant girls or made silk flowers. Some children were shined shoes, sold newspapers and bubblegum in the streets, snapped beans in canning factories and worked in coal mines. People tried to stand up for better conditions, pay and rights to make life better during this time.

Final Think Aloud

Related words: ***steel, railroad, meat packing industry***

Another industry that caused our country to grow was the steel industry. Steel craftsmen were experts creating steel until many lost their jobs when the Bessemer Process was developed for the mass production of steel. It changed our world, because large amounts of steel could be used to make skyscrapers, cars, bridges and the railroad. The building of the transcontinental railroad allowed goods



to be sold across the United States. Chicago became the center of the meat packing industry. Animals were hauled to meat packing plants to be processed and then shipped by the railroad to be sold. The meat packing industry faced many problems with work conditions, unfair pay, and sanitation. Our cities grew during the time of industrialization.

Industrialization was a time when our country was growing quickly. Factories provided jobs for many unskilled workers. Machines were invented that made simple jobs on assembly lines. The steel industry had a big impact on connecting our country's transportation and growing our cities taller! Industrialization created many problems such as pollution, poor factory working conditions, children's labor, crowded and dirty cities, and the need for garbage collection and sewage disposal. The age of industry made our country realize we need to figure out ways to help people in fast growing cities and changing times.