The Expansion of Industry - Introduction

CLAIM: At the end of the 19th century, natural resources, creative ideas, and growing markets fueled an industrial boom.

As settlement continued in the West, the nation was being transformed by vast changes in

(1) ______. Fuel - in the form of kerosene refined from oil or coal - helped spur growth.

So did plentiful supplies of (2) ______. Iron became even more useful when the Bessemer

process, developed about 1850, allowed workers to efficiently turn it into (3)______.

With the open-hearth method, devised in 1886, even more steel was produced.

Steel came to be used in (4)______, in farm tools such as the plow and reaper, and to make cans for preserving food. Engineers also used steel to make the new bridge connecting New York City and Brooklyn and to build (5)______.

Thomas Alva Edison established a research (6)______ in 1876 in order to develop new inventions. He devised an incandescent (7)______ and began to organize power plants to generate (8)_____. Cities built electric railways, and businesses built factories powered by electricity.

The typewriter (1867) and the (9)______ (1876) appeared for the first time. These and other inventions changed daily life. More women began to work in offices; by 1910, women were about (10)______ of the clerical work force. The average work week decreased by about ten hours, and people enjoyed more leisure time.