



Name: _____ Date: _____

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

Document 1A

By 1825, the Erie Canal gave another boost to New York’s already busy seaports. Commercial vessels could now travel north up the Hudson River all the way to Lake Erie. This new waterway not only connected the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes, it caused a terrific boon [increase] in industry all along the Hudson River and made New York’s ports and harbor more valuable than ever.
Between 1830 and 1860, New York City grew at an astounding rate. . . .

Source: Virginia Schomp, *New York Celebrates the States*, Benchmark

Document 1B

Prior to construction of the canal, New York City was the nation’s fifth largest seaport, behind Boston, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New Orleans. Within 15 years of its opening [Erie Canal], New York [City] was the busiest port in America, moving tonnages greater than Boston, Baltimore and New Orleans combined. . . .

Source: New York State Canal Corporation

1a Based on the documents, state **one** way the Erie Canal affected the economic growth of **New York State**. [1]

Score

b Based on the documents, state **one** way the Erie Canal affected the economic growth of **New York City**. [1]

Score

Document 2

Shipping Freight During
the Erie Canal Era
(New York City to Buffalo)

	Dirt Road	Canal
Method	Wagon	Boat
Amount of Time	21 Days	8 Days
Cost	\$100/ton	\$10/ton

Source: James Silver, *American History Activities*,
The Center for Applied Research in Education (adapted)

2a According to this chart, how many days did it take to ship freight from New York City to Buffalo using the Erie Canal? [1]

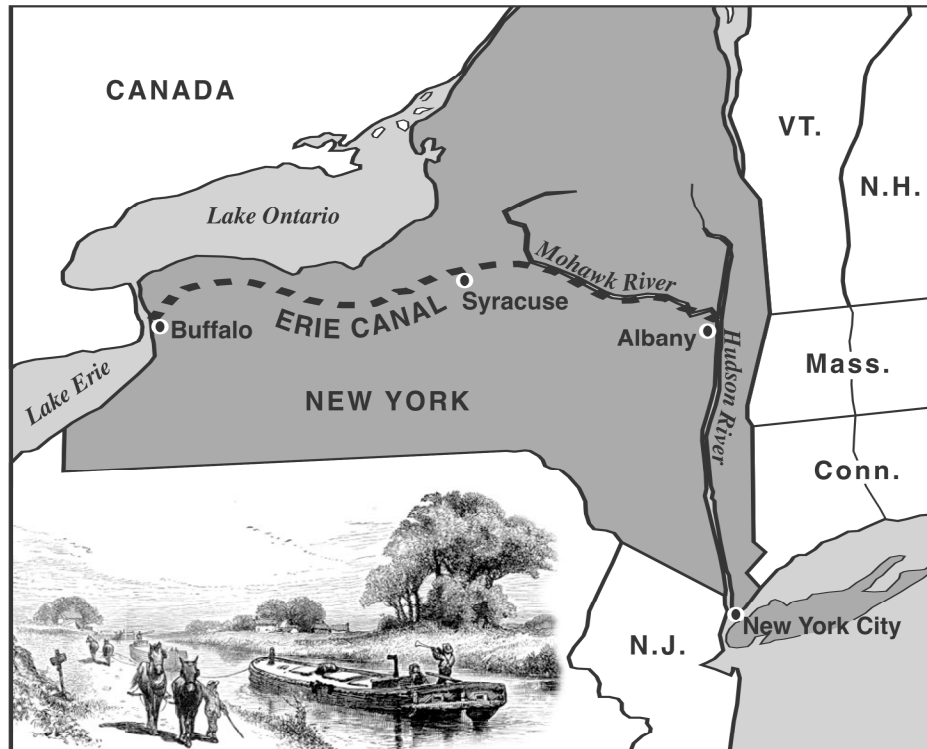
_____ Score

b Using information from the chart, state **two** economic advantages of using the Erie Canal instead of dirt roads to transport freight during the canal era. [2]

(1) _____
_____ Score

(2) _____
_____ Score

Document 3



Source: James Silver, *American History Activities*,
The Center for Applied Research in Education (adapted)

3 Based on the map, state **one** way the Erie Canal was important to the economic growth of the United States. [1]

Score